

Livingetc

THE HOMES MAGAZINE FOR MODERN LIVING

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The EauZone Plus Hinged Door for Corner or Recess has been designed to show off the beauty of solid 10mm safety glass with minimal framing and seals, with a vast range of design options and bespoke the choice is endless.

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Katrine Martensen-Larsen
Writer, Art from the Heart

WHAT'S YOUR USP?

My aesthetic sense and creativity, combined with a high level of discipline.

WHO IS YOUR DESIGN HERO? The old Danish master Kaare Klint because he had such a massive impact on Danish design.

HOW DOES YOUR HOME MAKE YOU FEEL? It fills me with energy because it's very harmonious and beautiful.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE APP? Without a doubt Instagram – I spend too much time on there, but I love it.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A SPARE £100? I would buy a nice piece of ceramic. Ideally by Gertrud or Myre Vasegaard.



Marc Heldens
Writer/stylist, Tall Story

WHO IS YOUR DESIGN HERO?

My dear friend designer Alexander van Straten.

WHAT INTERIORS ACCESSORY CAN'T

YOU RESIST BUYING? Chairs – we have 25 at the moment and still counting.

WHAT'S YOUR BIGGEST EXTRAVAGANCE?

Not buying a new watch, but keeping the Seiko watch my father gave to me 40 years ago.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT? Having 1,200 pieces published over almost 25 years in more than 115 magazines in 30 countries.

IF YOU WERE A HOME ACCESSORY, YOU WOULD BE... A lamp, giving light and warmth.



Mikkel Adsbøl
Photographer, Art from the Heart

WHICH THREE WORDS SUM YOU UP?

Hedonist, perfectionist, social.
WHO IS YOUR DESIGN HERO? Hans J Wegner – his design is so

timeless, functional and works well in a home with children.

WHAT ITEM COULD YOU NOT LIVE WITHOUT?

My new Heritage Chair by Frits Henningsen, designed back in the Thirties. It's a true modern masterpiece.

WHAT WAS THE FIRST PIECE OF FURNITURE YOU BOUGHT? A round dining table in smoked oak by the carpenter who created the tables for the restaurant Noma.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT SUMMER? Everyone is much more social.



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So that's it for this year...

House Tours, our annual event that invites readers inside more than 20 of the best houses featured in the magazine, finished last Friday. The team are back at **Livingetc** HQ, looking a little weary but bursting with ideas from, and admiration for, the homes and owners who opened their doors to us – and over 1,500 of *you*!

Most people I met on the Tours agreed, regardless of their personal aesthetic, what was so fascinating and inspiring was seeing the range of different styles, designs and colour schemes used – as well as having a privileged glimpse into how the owners and their families actually live in the spaces.

Back in my office, it made me reassess the homes we'd selected for this issue and consider how the environment affects the way people live – from Rob and Gina's open-to-the-elements beach house (page 36), which instantly makes tensed shoulders relax a few inches, to Houssein's quirky and compact Manhattan studio (page 84), where colour and humour collide with all the energy one would expect of NYC.

Our homes have a dramatic effect on our mood and spirit that goes way beyond their visual appeal – all the more reason to invest love, care and thought into our four walls! So I hope this summer issue gives you that dose of inspiration and encouragement to create your own beautiful sanctuary.

Suzanne Imre, EDITOR

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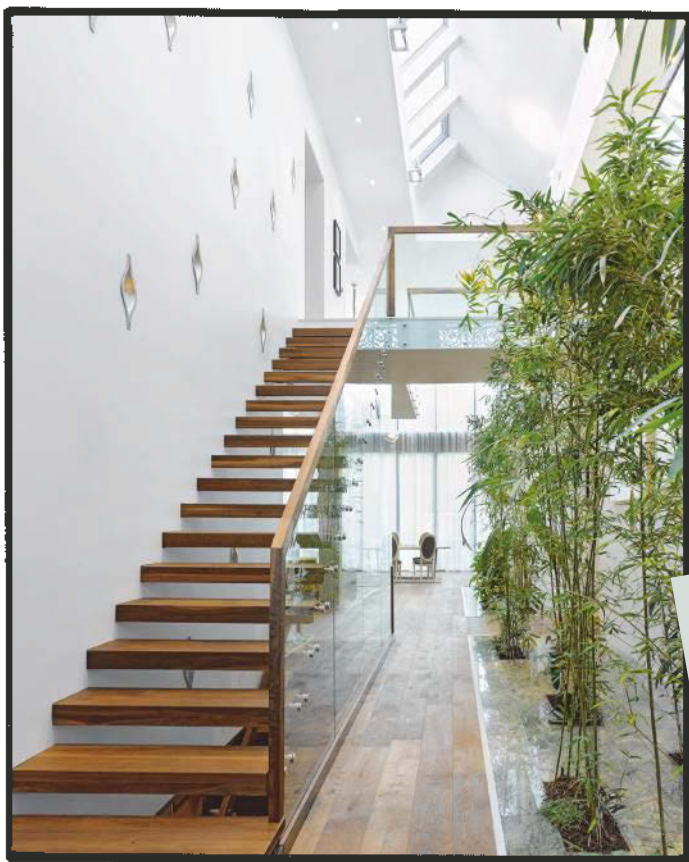
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Suzanne **Suzanne Imre, EDITOR**



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ME AND MY MORSØ...

“ It’s about delicious summer evenings. The gentle crackle of a real fire and the aroma of freshly cooked food. It’s about good friends, lots of laughter and an afternoon you wish could go on forever.

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MAKING LIFE WARMER SINCE 1853

AGENDA

Shopping . News . People . Design . Events . Treats

Colonial seat

Alfresco furniture has come in from the cold and it's a million miles from flimsy plastic tables and chairs. We love John Lewis's Ariel range, which pulls off the tricky brief of being beautiful, multifunctional and practical all at the same time. The aesthetic was inspired by the golden age of travel, as the brand's buyer for outdoor living Nicola Gidlow, explains: 'We've taken authentic patterns and shapes, but viewed them through a contemporary lens to develop beautifully modern design'. We couldn't agree more.

Ariel eucalyptus armchairs, £250 each; and table, £175 (johnlewis.com)

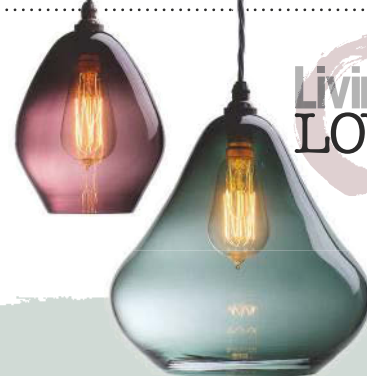


JET-SET, GO!

Globe-Trotter gets a fresh injection of hip thanks to a collaboration with House of Hackney, which sees its classic 30-inch suitcase lined with the cool Brit brand's flamboyant Palmeral print. Add in a smart leather trim and polished gold finishes and you're good to go with a piece that will age beautifully over the decades. £1,295 (houseofhackney.com)



Livingetc
LOVES



Light moves

We're big fans of Curiousa & Curiousa's hand-blown glass lights and these new Pear Drop pendants are fab additions to its range. With vintage squirrel cage bulbs, they give off a soft light.

Hang individually or in groups for an eclectic feel. From £330 each, made to order (curiousa.co.uk)

Livingetc
SWATCH
WATCH

Delicate sheer fabrics are ideal for filtering strong sunlight and add a light touch of decoration to a summer room. The subtly graduated Lagune 35480116 linen voile in Vert from Camengo's Almora Designs collection, above left (£87.10 per m, camengo.com), works beautifully when layered over the photorealistic rose blooms of Création Baumann's Blossom S 0100805 Trevira CS, above right (£103 per m, creationbaumann.co.uk).

Livingetc
LOVES

THE FUTURE'S BRIGHT

If the thought of a grandfather clock conjures up images of dusty lobbies, you need to take a look at Cloggy & Clocks's Colour Your Life version. Made from ash, it's available in any RAL colour you choose and has the added bonus of containing lots of hidden storage. Just the thing for the hallways of time-pressed, busy families. **£1,162.47** (clippings.com)



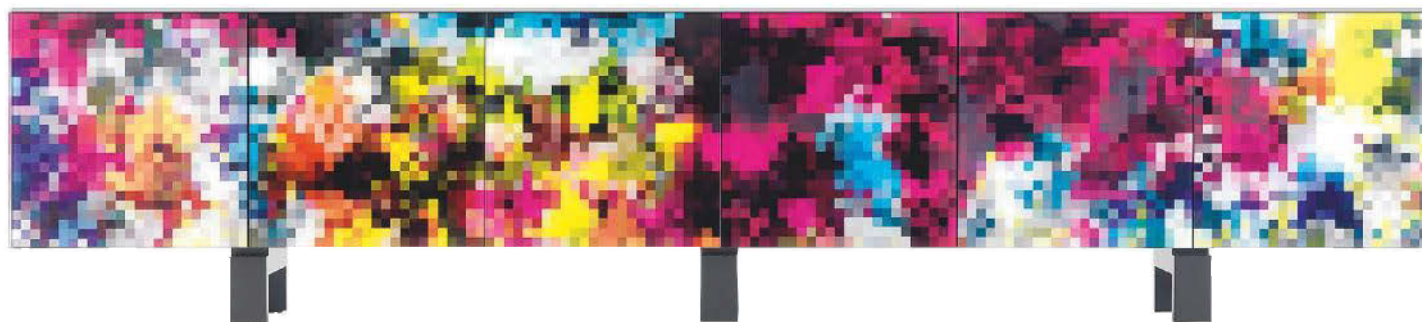
INSIDE JOB

Anglepoise has jzuzhed up its iconic 1227 lamp by adding funky geometric patterns to the inside of its shade. The three new Eley Kishimoto designs, launched at Clerkenwell Design Week, were created to celebrate the refurb of London's Centrepont tower. Urban Meadow, right, was inspired by the landmark's honeycomb façade. Talk about seeing things in a whole new light. **£200** (anglepoise.com)



DIGITAL EDGE

Is there no end to the impact the digital age is having on our lives? King of pixels Cristian Zuzunaga is moving on from textiles and has embarked on a collaboration with BD Barcelona Design. Inspired by a mobile phone screen, the Dreams cabinet features a stunning multicoloured digitally printed glass front. Viva la revolución! From **£4,199** (zuzunaga.com)



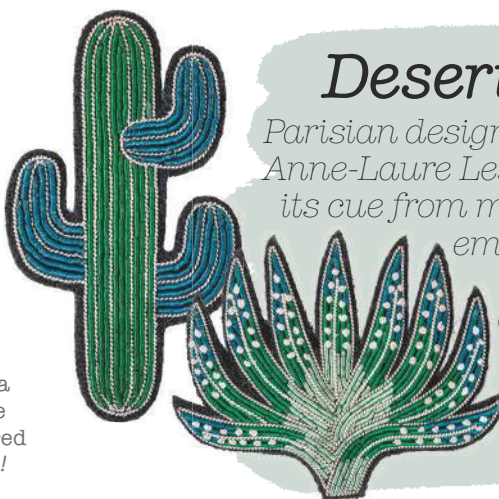
Simply beautiful

Sanderson Home's latest collection of fabrics and wallpapers is a lively mix of abstract shapes, large- and small-scale florals and geometric patterns. In a palette that ranges from neons to pastels, each design is made using the stencil-cut technique, giving the prints an engaging simplicity. *The range includes, from left on the wall, Floral Bazaar 224639 cotton, £28 per m; Papavera 214746 wallpaper, £46 per 10m roll; and Candytuft 224635 cotton, £28 per m* (sanderson-uk.com)



Desert bloomers

Parisian design duo Marie Macon and Anne-Laure Lesquoy's jewellery takes its cue from military badges. Hand-embroidered in cannetille on felt, their Cactus and Aloe Vera brooches will lift any summer jacket. **£35 each** (conranshop.co.uk)



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DESIGN CRUSH

This month, we're lusting after...

Anthropologie



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE Anthropologie's Spitalfields store, London E1; Pheasant & Moth earthenware pitcher, £98, Anthropologie; and stoneware Cornichons dessert plate, £14, Cornelia O'Donovan for Anthropologie

USP... An eclectic lifestyle brand with its roots in art and craft, Anthropologie is the go-to emporium for unique and spirit-lifting homeware and fashion, sourced from around the globe.

THE LOWDOWN... Founded in 1992 in Pennsylvania, it evolved as a spin-off of its Urban Outfitters sister company, targeting a more mature woman. Offering offbeat clothing, accessories and homeware, the brand soon took on cult status for anyone with an eye for something different. With a growing demand for all things lifestyle, a mail-order catalogue and website followed in 1998. (Before this, a visit to any New York branch was on every stylish traveller's must-do list.) Then, in 2009, international stores opened on London's Regent Street and in Canada, followed by the European website in 2010. More stores arrived, designed to blend in with the local environment – the latest being London's Spitalfields. Past designer collaborations include products by Kit Kemp, Paola Navone, Mara Hoffman and Lost & Found. For autumn, check out the door knobs and hooks in brass with semi-precious stones by Nikki Gewirtz of UK jewellery brand Lola Rose.

WHY WE LOVE IT... You can always find something individual and unexpected. The interiors range is surprisingly broad, encompassing everything from furniture and soft furnishings to kitchen utensils and funky ceramics – no mean feat in these mass-produced, pile 'em high, sell 'em cheap days.

NEED TO KNOW... Look out for the artist exhibitions at the King's Road store. This year has included work by Robert Bradford and Hepzibah Swinford (in partnership with Rebecca Hossack Gallery); currently, Royal College of Art-trained Cornelia O'Donovan is exhibiting, as well as selling her patterned dessert plates and limited-edition prints.

STAR BUY... The new season's kitchenware range taps into the mixed materials trend. This marble and wood cheese board, left, £24, ticks all our boxes.

For more information, visit anthropologie.eu

Dotty about blue

We've fallen for the new Heal's 1810 collection of ceramics. With a hint of Delftware and Fifties Midwinter about them, these Bottle vases in, from left, Ink Amulet and Ink Dotty totally nail the season's indigo trend. From £30 each (heals.co.uk)



Mid-century mood

To conjure up a retro-looking space, colours are of the essence. For a mid-century flavour, try Crown Paints' elegant Retrospective range. The vibrant Tropical Ocean, left wall, combined with the darker Genuine, right wall, and neutral Crochet, rear wall, get the vintage vibe spot-on. Tropical Ocean Matt & Silk emulsion, £18.49 for 2.5l; Genuine and Crochet Fashion for Walls emulsions, £22.67 each for 2.5l (crownpaint.co.uk)

FIRE POWER

How cute is the EcoGrill All Natural Barbecue by Eco Consumer Products? Made from sustainably sourced hollowed-out alder, it's designed to prolong the burning time of the charcoal, making it ideal for a spot of marshmallow toasting.

Pass us a fork... £10 (notonthehighstreet.com)





Pitch perfect

Heading off for a spot of glamping? Set up camp under something pretty. Flowers of Liberty's Theodora tent will cut a dash at any festival. And it's 100 per cent waterproof, should the heavens open... £595 (liberty.co.uk)

BLING IT ON

Polish up your sports performance with a pair of Premium Superstar trainers. Inspired by Eighties hip-hop iconography, Topshop's design team have reworked Adidas Originals's classic leather trainer in a silver colourway. Super-bling, in other words. Respect. £110 (topshop.com)



Livingetc
LOVES



BLOOMING MARVELLOUS

The latest wallpaper from pattern maestro Timorous Beasties is a vibrant, digitally printed floral that references William Morris's central London home. With its punky colours and rambling trails, Bloomsbury Garden will give walls a summery pop. £300 per 10m roll (timorousbeasties.com)



The new bunting

Give your conservatory or family space an elegant oriental twist by festooning it with some beautiful Sashiko *papel picado* – traditional Mexican tissue-paper banners, hand-cut into patterns based on old Japanese embroidery. Made by expert craftsmen just outside Mexico City, they're a great way of injecting an inexpensive decorative touch into a summer celebration. And being white, they will highlight or match any decorative scheme, casting pretty light effects around the room. £11.50 for a 4.5m string with nine individual 50 x 35cm cuts (peagreenboat.com)

3 of the BEST

laundry baskets



Smart places to stash your smalls, from left: wicker and cotton laundry basket, £34.95 (graceandgloryhome.co.uk); cotton-mix laundry basket, £33.25 (moveatamara.com); and lacquered wood laundry bin, £125, (thewhitecompany.com)

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LOVES



RAINBOW BRIGHT

Glas Italia's glass Shimmer table has future design classic written all over it. Created by Patricia Urquiola, its iridescent finish, which changes constantly depending on the angle of the light source and vantage point, makes it a real standout. It's like having a rainbow in your room.

From £987 (aram.co.uk)



Flamingo flair

Add a dash of fun to your holiday ensemble with Kate Spade's raffia trilby. From her Take a Walk on the Wild Side collection, it features one rather splendid trend-fabulous flamingo! £88

(katespade.co.uk)



Duvet daze

Bed linen that doesn't need ironing? Yes please. H&M Home's soft, washed linen has just the right kind of 'slubby' look to create a rough-luxe bedroom. At its best when creased and crumpled, the natural fibres 'breathe', keeping you cool in summer and warm during the winter. And remember, it'll only get better with age. *Linen double duvet set, including two pillowcases, £59.99 (bm.com)*



SOFA SO COOL

Relax after a long day (or perhaps after eating too much cake) on Loaf's comfy Pudding sofa. Upholstered in delicious Burnt Orange velvet from Designers Guild, it's bang on trend for the early Seventies look, but also has fluffy, feather-filled cushions to keep you both comfy and stylish. From £1,495 (loaf.com)



IT'S A DOG'S LIFE

The new Cecil dog bed has been created with pooch in mind. Designed by sofa.com and Dogs Trust ambassador/homeware designer Fenella Smith, it includes washable, removable covers in four cute patterns (including Dachshund, above). Animal lovers will appreciate that for every one sold, sofa.com will donate £23 to Dogs Trust. Woof, woof! **From £230 (sofa.com)**

Livingetc LOVES

Luxe lounging

We'd happily wear The Linen Works's PJs outside of the bedroom... Made with linen and bamboo fibres, they have a supple, luxe quality and also come with a matching robe.

£149.50 (thelinenworks.co.uk)



Looking hot

There's nothing like a real fire on those cooler summer nights and Morsø's Kamino outdoor fireplace is a sure-fire crowd pleaser. Made out of enamelled cast iron, it has an optional Tuscan grill attachment you can use for barbecuing food. Alternatively, you could just huddle round it from early spring through to chilly autumn. Its clever design means that it can be turned, depending on the wind direction. **Kamino fire, £999; and Tuscan grill, £90 (morsso.co.uk)**

ONE TO WATCH... Get the lowdown on a future design star



CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT Ian's workshop in Hackney, London E2; Pottery Series stoneware pitcher, £58, Ian McIntyre for Another Country (selfridges.com); Ian McIntyre; a mix of porcelain, bone china and stoneware mug and plates, from £9 each, Ian McIntyre for Wrong for Hay 2014 (liberty.co.uk)



Ian McIntyre

WHO? After gaining his MA in Applied Art from the Royal College of Art in 2010, Ian has specialised in ceramic design. He is a founding member of Studio Manifold – a group of creatives who set up a studio in an east London railway arch in 2010.

WHY? The Crafts Council picked Ian as one of 'the most promising makers who are applying their training and skills in new and exciting ways' in 2008. As well as designing for shows such as the London Design Festival in 2014, Ian has crafted collections for furniture and accessories brands Another Country and Wrong for Hay.

WHAT INSPIRES YOUR WORK? 'Everyday utilitarian objects that have withstood the test of time. The combination of craftsmanship and industrial production has always fascinated me. There's something unassuming about craft on an industrial level. It's made to fulfil a daily function, while still having a great provenance.'

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOUR ANOTHER COUNTRY AND WRONG FOR HAY COLLECTIONS? 'The Wrong for Hay is mainly porcelain and bone china, while the Another Country collection is stoneware and terracotta – and arguably more rustic. Both have given me headaches along the way!'

WHAT'S NEXT? 'My piece, A Ton of Clay (towering columns of tableware inspired by potter Isaac Button) is being shown at Jerwood Space [jerwoodvisualarts.org], from 10 July-30 August.'

To see more of Ian's work, visit ianmcintyre.co.uk

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1 Wood-tiled chest, £1,199, West Elm **2** Wood bead chandelier, £120, The French Bedroom Company **3** Fahrenheit 07906001 sheer cotton-mix in Ecume, £112.80 per linear m, Pierre Frey **4** Chiron cushion in Chalk, £75, Designers Guild **5** Wobbler cereal bowls, £35 for a set of four, Loaf **6** Gold-plated magnesite earrings, £45, Kenneth Jay Lane at net-a-porter.com **7** Wood mirror, £199, M&S **8** Avignon lantern, £70, Broste Copenhagen at The White Company **9** Lace espadrilles, £345, Valentino at net-a-porter.com **10** All the white moves at Chloé's spring/summer 2015 show **11** Carved screen, £300, Butterfly Home by Matthew Williamson at Debenhams **12** Leather macramé tote, £690, Tory Burch **13** Calin cotton and wood chair, from £1,147; and footstool, from £877, Pascal Mourgue for Ligne Roset

White HEAT

Pristine stretches of sand, rippling boat sails, piña coladas... Ever noticed how the best things about summer are white? This season's hottest trend is mixing whites with rustic, textured materials. In the fashion world, Simone Rocha's models were decorated in sheer whites layered with crocheted flowers, while Chloé's catwalk mixed boho with a don't-mess-with-me attitude in detailed lace. Homeware has also had a whiteout, with natural materials such as worn bamboo and uneven pottery being updated with a bright white splash. The orderly tiles on West Elm's wood chest are softened thanks to their simple whitewashed finish, while the carving around M&S's mirror becomes gentle when lightly daubed with paint. Think carefree days on Ibiza beaches. Now, where's that boarding pass?

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1 IC S1 suspension light, £233, Michael Anastassiades for Flos at nest.co.uk **2** Dalston Tortoise sunglasses, £56, Mr Boho at Suite Hazen **3** Modular storage unit, £1,199 for the configuration shown, USM at Aram Store **4** Spiro tote, £165, Sophie Anderson at net-a-porter.com **5** Orange Diamond party glass, £6.95, Fishs Eddy at Liberty **6** Piccadilly 94/8046 wallpaper, £85 per 10m roll, Cole & Son **7** Stanley velvet chair in Sunshine, £700, Abigail Ahern for sofa.com **8** Aggie vase, £20, Habitat **9** Doing the Time Warp at Emilio Pucci's spring/summer 2015 show **10** TS marble coffee table, £519, GamFratesi for Gubi **11** Kandahar cotton pouffe, £335, Missoni Home at Amara **12** Notion 130 leather and wood wedges, £450, Jimmy Choo **13** Union mohair and walnut sofa in Kvadrat Haakon 2, from £13,734, Autaban at De La Espada

Groovy BABY

It's time to dig out that lava lamp and dust off those flares – we're getting on down for summer as we take a trip back to the Seventies. The Disco-decade style still works today thanks to touches of white and subtle flashes of gold that tone down the historically eye-popping patterns. In fashion, House of Holland's spring/summer collection celebrated flower power with bright, oversized florals bringing some funk to the catwalk. Meanwhile, Emilio Pucci's models ranged from floaty hippies in tassels and tie-dye to more refined retro babes in tailored burnt oranges and browns. Groovy patterns and vintage materials have also made their way into interiors – Gubi's elegant TS table puts brown marble back on the map, while Missoni Home's Kandahar pouffe is a softer side of psychedelic. Far out... Totally.

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Antalya sun lounger in Taupe, £248.90, *Maisons du Monde*

Livingetc
LOVES



Red Mountain sun lounger, £589, *Skyline Design at Occa-Home*



Nipprig sun lounger, £80, *Ikea*

THE EDITED CHOICE

Sun loungers

Hot seats to chill out on

Research – Jesse Harris



Cloud relax lounge bed, from £2,920, *Andrea Parisio for Meridiani at Furniture Republic*



Roscana sun lounger, £129, *B&Q*



Amaze sunbed, £1,499, *Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen for Cane-line*





Marina sun lounger, £1,495, *Indian Ocean*



Week-End sun lounger, £686, *Studio BrichetZiegler for Oxyo at Made in Design*



Tango Basalto beach chair, from £2,150, *Richard Frinier for Dedon at Leisure Plan*



Bistro chaise longue, £310, *Patrice Hardy for Fermob at Barbed*

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Bentley sun lounger, £100, *Tesco Direct*



Aura sun lounger, £595, *Barlow Tyrie at The Chelsea Gardener*



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Design Letters dinner plate, £9, The Goodhood Store



Cockatoo Jungle dinner plate, £6.50, Rose & Grey



Summer Palm Leaf dinner plate, £4, John Lewis



Livingetc
LOVES

Mimosa dinner plate, £4, Habitat



Indigo dinner plate, £4, M&S



THE EDITED CHOICE

Melamine *plates*

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some fantastic plastic

Research – Jesse Harris

Sambori dinner plate, £12 for a set of four, BHS



Washed-glass dinner plate, £3, Tesco Direct



Marble-effect dinner plate, £10, Rockett St George



Mono dinner plate, £3 for a set of three, Sainsbury's



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DESIGN CLASSIC

Panton chair

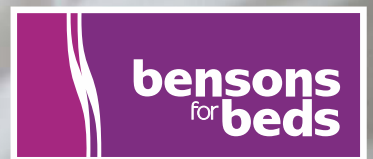
Designer Verner Panton, 1967.

Details Original chairs made in rigid polyurethane foam, now available in myriad shades of polypropylene, £208, Vitra.

Background The world's first moulded plastic chair, the 'S' (for stackable) is one of the masterpieces of Danish design. Legend has it that Copenhagen-born Panton was inspired to produce it by the sight of a pile of plastic buckets positioned neatly on top of each other. But in spite of its simple origins, the chair proved fiendishly complicated to produce. 'It was very difficult to work on,' says Joanna Moore, PR manager at Vitra, the Swiss company that still holds the licence to make the chair. 'Many manufacturers refused to get involved.' Just as well Vitra did. Saying the 'S' chair has achieved cult status hardly does it justice. It's appeared on the cover of *Vogue* with a nude Kate Moss and was shot by fashion photographer Brian Duffy for *Nova* in 1971, accompanied by a semi-naked Amanda Lear (the cover model on Roxy Music's *For Your Pleasure* album), with the strapline, 'How to undress in front of your husband'. Phew – who said that plastic wasn't sexy?



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HOUSE of the MONTH

beachside LUXE

Rustic looks and reclaimed materials mix with glam lighting and designer edge in Rob and Gina's home by the sea



Photography – Warren Heath

Production – Sven Alberding/Bureaux/GAP Interiors

Words – Andréa Childs

EXTERIOR

Wraparound decking and an innovative plunge pool create the ultimate place to relax and watch the ocean.

GET THE LOOK The black and white loungers are from South African furniture and homeware store Weylandts.

Home profile

THE OWNERS

Rob McClelland, founder of film and photographic production agency 2Productions, his wife Gina, who also works in the business, and their children Meeca, 11, and Hannah, seven. They also share their home with Amstil, an Australian Border collie; Texan, a Jack Russell; and Max, a Yorkshire terrier.

THE PROPERTY

A contemporary house in Grotto Bay, on South Africa's Western Cape, 45 minutes from Cape Town. The ground floor has an open-plan kitchen, dining and living room, plus the master bedroom and en-suite bathroom, another bedroom with an en-suite and a WC. Upstairs, there are two bedrooms and two en-suite bathrooms. Wraparound terraces feature a 'braai' barbecue, outdoor shower, lounge and dining area.





'I'm a bushman at heart,'

says Rob McClelland, leaning on a doorpost of his seaside home. 'I like to be a part of nature and to feel the sand between my toes. The idea was to bring the beach to this house, but not to do the stereotypical blue and white coastal look. The property sits in a nature reserve and I wanted to bring the colours and textures of the veldt inside.'

Rob didn't start out as a designer of houses. He was training to be an accountant when he was asked to do some modelling ('I got paid for having my photo taken and riding around on a Jet Ski for two days; it was brilliant,' he says, laughing). He finished his studies and began modelling full time, but his eye was always on the future. 'I realised that a career in front of the camera is pretty short term, so I decided to go into the business side and I ran a successful model agency for years,' he explains. 'My rule was never to date any of the models, but then I met Gina. When we fell in love, it was time to move on.'

He put his accountant's brain to work and realised that, after the models and actors, the biggest expense on film and photo shoots is paying to hire the locations. 'I'd done up houses before and it occurred to me that I could build a property that would be the perfect home for me and Gina,' he says. 'But one that was also built with the needs of photographers and film-makers in mind, so it could be hired out as a location.'

It took 18 months for Rob to find the ideal spot for his new house-cum-business venture – a nature reserve 45 minutes north of Cape Town, close to the sea and with unspoilt landscape as far as the eye can see – and another 18 months for the construction. 'Here in the Western Cape, the best sun comes from the north and the wind comes from southeast. The angle of this plot meant I could build the house facing north, so it's sheltered and still gets the best light,' Rob explains.

He began sketching out a floor plan for a quintessential Cape Cod-style clapperboard house, prioritising his and Gina's needs while also thinking about how the finished result would look through the frame of a camera. 'The kitchen island is the perfect example,' he says. 'We wanted the person cooking to be able to stand at the hob and have a view of the ocean. It also had to have seats on one side, so that we can hang out together. But when

it came to fixing its exact position, I imagined how it would look through a lens and that's how we decided whether it should be a few centimetres to the left or the right.'

Similarly, the layout is incredibly flexible, focused on the giant fireplace in the living area, but with every door and window able to open up and give unique perspectives on the interior and exterior. 'Everything revolves around the fire – I build one every day of my life; gazing at the flames is like watching TV for me,' says Rob. 'My rule is that a fireplace has to be a minimum of 1.5m in length, so there's room to cook or barbecue on it.' Huge sliding doors are positioned to give a view of the ocean and seamless access to the deck that wraps around the property.

The kitchen windows swing back – beach-shack style – to create a serving counter for the sun lovers outside. And the double-height living area, with its exposed rafters, adds to the sense of light and space, without busting the six-metre height restriction on buildings in the nature reserve. 'I gave up a bedroom upstairs in order to have that volume,' says Rob. 'Plus, I'm claustrophobic – I need to see far and don't want to feel the roof is pressing down on me!'

The décor, designed by Gina, has been kept simple – white walls and floors, with weather-beaten wood, casually flung fleeces and woven baskets to add warmth and texture. 'One day, my twin brother took me to see a pile of wood that had been reclaimed from the demolition of a factory. The owners said we could have it for 500 rand [approx £25] if we took the whole lot away for them. My brother used it to build all the decking and landscaping around the house,' says Rob, hardly able to believe his good fortune. The decks were deliberately left unvarnished, so they would soften into silvery tones in the South African sunshine.

The house was completed ten years ago and in that time Rob and Gina have had two daughters, Meeca and Hannah, who now get to enjoy it too. 'This location is peaceful and special and I think I've captured that in the build,' says Rob. 'It's not a place for nightlife and parties. But when we're all here and we look through the living room to the pool, the nature and the sea and listen to the birds and the waves... Just, wow.'

←← DECK

The house is designed for seamless inside-outside living. Here on the deck, a hanging chair makes a great place for a pit stop.

GET THE LOOK The hanging rattan chair is from Weylandts.

← DINING AREA

Simple rush-seated chairs give a relaxed vibe to the dining area, while the all-white scheme keeps the look light and effortless.

GET THE LOOK The dining table was custom made. The chairs are from South African homeware store Beach House Living. The rug is from Weylandts.

LIVING AREA

'My brother built the fireplace for me from reclaimed wood,' says Rob. Its rough-and-ready look adds grit to the pristine white living space.

GET THE LOOK The fireplace was designed by Rob. The sofa, chairs and coffee table are from Weylandts.



Home truths

WHAT'S YOUR WORST HABIT? I find it hard to relax. I'm always busy with something.

WHO'S YOUR HERO?

I don't have heroes.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU SAID SORRY?

Every day. That and 'thank you'.

WHAT DOES LOVE FEEL LIKE? Wow!

IF YOU COULD CHOOSE YOUR LAST MEAL, WHAT WOULD IT BE? Anything

cooked by Gina – she's the best cook in the world.

WHAT DID YOU DREAM ABOUT LAST NIGHT?

Surfing a perfect, glassy, six-foot wave in warm water.

KITCHEN ↑

The kitchen has been designed so that anyone cooking can look out into the living room and, from there, out to the ocean.

GET THE LOOK The kitchen is from South African company Easylife Kitchens. The hob is by Smeg. The pendant lights and trio of stools are from Weylandts.

*'I wanted to bring the colours
and textures of the African
veldt into the décor'*

KITCHEN

'I originally built a bedroom between the kitchen and the terrace outside, but when I added a barbecue area on the deck, that layout didn't work any more,' says Rob. Instead, he knocked down the bedroom and expanded the kitchen with an island unit that creates a natural bridge between the inside and outside space.

GET THE LOOK The carved wood pieces on the walls are from Weylandts.



MASTER BEDROOM

'The simple bed is made from reclaimed timber and contrasts beautifully with the ornate chandelier above,' says Rob.

GET THE LOOK The four-poster bed was custom-made. The rug and leather pouffe are from Weylandts.





MASTER BEDROOM ↑

'We bought the bath and it was too big to fit in the bathroom, so we decided to make it a feature of the bedroom, hotel-style,' says Rob. 'That's one advantage of project managing your own build – you can make spontaneous decisions.'

GET THE LOOK The bath is from South African franchise *On Tap Plumbing & Bathrooms*.

OUTDOOR SHOWER ↗

Rob's brother made the outdoor shower area from reclaimed timber.

GET THE LOOK The shower is from *On Tap Plumbing & Bathrooms*.

Livingetc loves *THE PITCHED ROOFS AND EXPOSED RAFTERS*, which add angles of interest to the simple space.

HUMBLE MATERIALS – clapperboard, corrugated roof panels, reclaimed wood – elevated by great design.

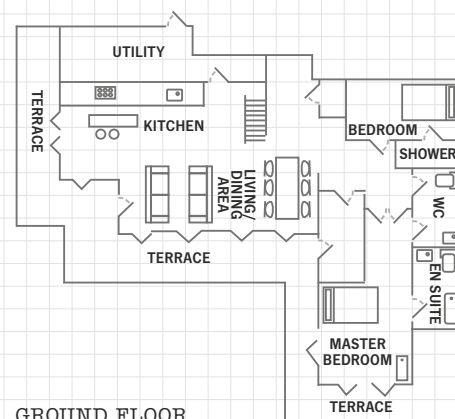
THE PARED-BACK PERFECTION that's been created to look amazing from every direction.

THE FLASHES OF GLAMOUR from the crystal chandeliers to the luxury bathtub.

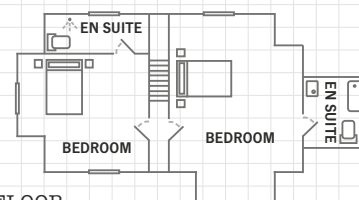
HOW THE PROPERTY SITS IN ITS ENVIRONMENT, with everything from the aspect to its landscaping taken into consideration.



The blueprint



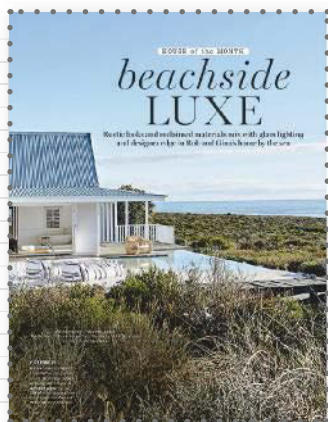
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IDEAS toSTEAL

Re-create beach style and dress your space with wood goods in whitewashed hues

KEY SURFACES



FROM LEFT Driftwood White **flooring**, £116 per sq m, The Reclaimed Flooring Co; Pure White **marble matt emulsion**, £38 for 2.5l, Mylands; and Messina V3137/27 **linen** in Chalk, £62 per m, Villa Nova



KEY FEATURE Full-height shutters

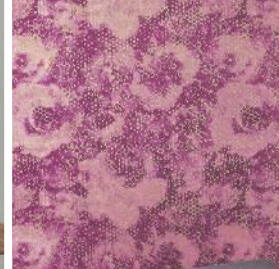
Living in deepest suburbia with a beach-house fantasy? Simply add shutters to your space and bring the seaside vibe into your interior. White loves the light and neutral shutters will brighten up a room on a sunny day, while allowing you to alter light levels and create mood. Choose from a wide range of looks – Shutterly Fabulous (shutterlyfabulous.com) has showrooms across the country and offers a variety of options, from affordable basswood to premium elm, and in myriad finishes.

KEY PRODUCTS



1 Pod hanging chair with cushion, £520, CB2 **2** Oslo ceiling light in Ivory, £99, Atkin and Thyme **3** Wooden Sticks table, £79.99, Zara Home **4** Canyon vase, £55, Abigail Ahern **5** Acent cushion, £35, Woven **6** Round wood decoration, £129, Out & Out Original **7** Curved rattan bed, £1,400, Anthropologie





Little Greene
— PAINT & PAPER 1775 —

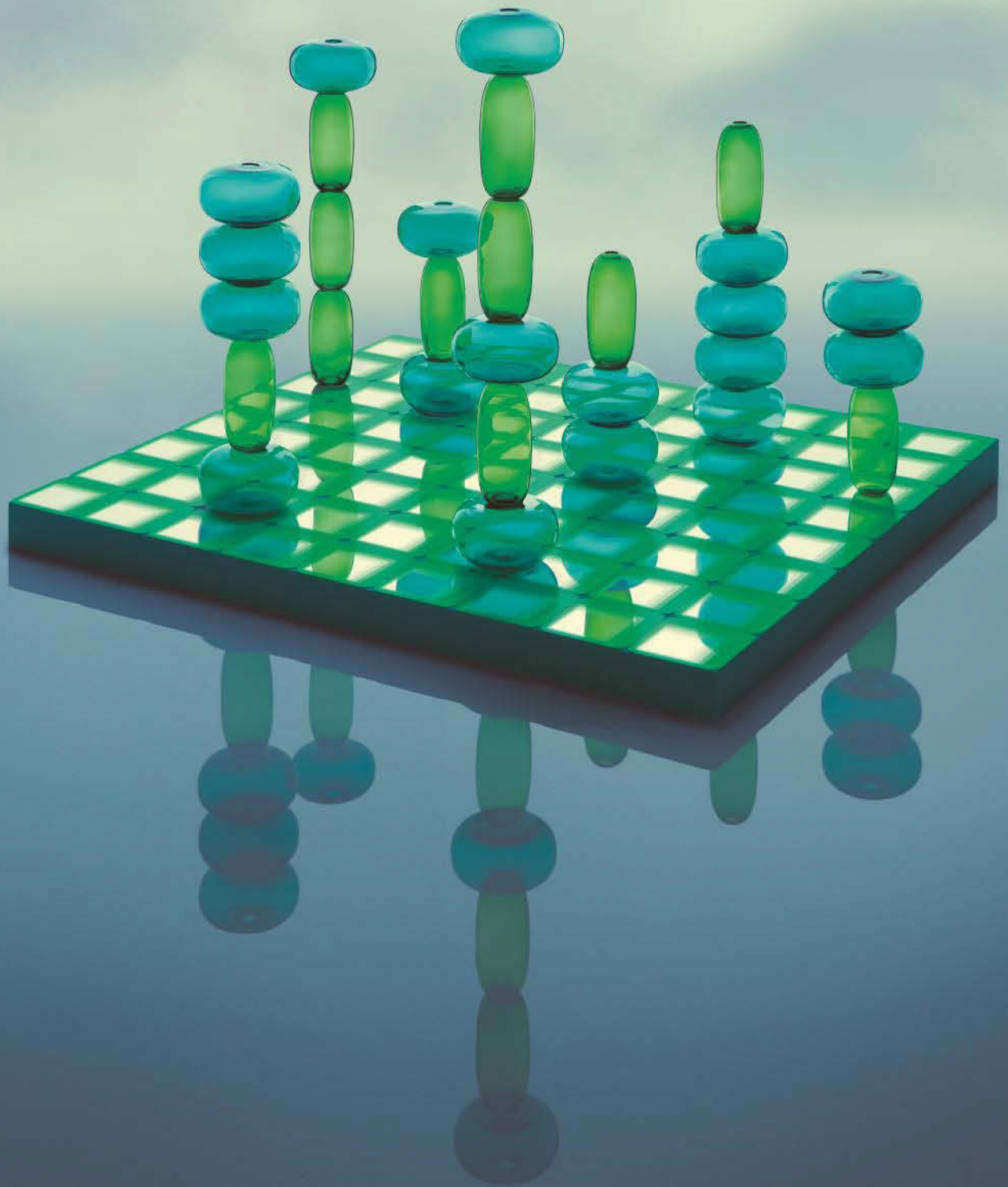


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ALL ABOUT THE HOUSE

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GET SET FOR SUMMER
Occa divan bed, from £198;
Mezz headboard, £799; By
Nord Wolf bed linen, from £23
for a pillowcase; By Nord
cushions, £73 each; Normann
Copenhagen Tablo tables, from
£190 each; Innermost Glaze
Corinna pendants, £263 each;
Luxury scented candles, from
£25 each; and Normann
Copenhagen Oona rug, £200



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Normann
Copenhagen Tablo table, £190; & Tradition
Flower Pot pendant, £219; Lexington Classic
throw, £139; Design House Stockholm Rock
chair, £292; and Skagerak Push mirror, £525

With summer in full swing, there's no better time to refresh and revive your home by introducing a lighter, brighter feel. This season, it's key to keep things minimal and combine clean whites and cool greys with natural wood grains. Soften the look with textiles in gentle pastel accents of pink and blue. For inspiration, look to the Scandi aesthetic, which is synonymous with modern style, and choose simple, sculptural accessories to add interest.

Sounds too much like hard work when the sun is shining? Then you might find it easier to consult the innovative new online interiors destination Houseology.com. This new website not only showcases fabulous collections of furniture, lighting and accessories, all available to buy, but also offers guidance and inspiration curated by a team of professional interior designers. Between them, they have created some of the world's most beautiful spaces and their aim is to demystify the design process and share their insider knowledge – equipping you with the tools and techniques to achieve the looks you desire.

With Houseology.com, you have interior design masterclasses at your fingertips, covering infinite possibilities – from practical advice, such as buying guides (for beds and bedding, for example) and design how-tos (from a child's room to a hallway), to the more inspirational ideas section, which includes talented guest bloggers, videos and useful advice. The website's content is renewed on a weekly basis, with chic new homeware added as well as insightful articles, handy tips from industry insiders and informative blogs.

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 Houseology

TREND inspiration

NEW FRONTIER

Thought the American West was a style desert?
Not in our book... This season's furniture
and accessories have a nomadic, free-spirited feel

Photography – Jonathan West
Styling – Hannah Franklin

Raising Arizona

Modern marquetry takes its inspiration from native motifs to create a new take on the tribal vibe.

Tito limed-ash and aged-mirror **cabinet**, £3,685, Julian Chichester. PK22 stainless-steel **lounge chair**, upholstered in Point rayon by Paul Smith for Maharam, £2,800, Poul Kjærholm for Fritz Hansen at Republic of Fritz Hansen. **The Sailmaker's House**, on cabinet, £265, Yukihiro Akama at The Shop Floor Project. **Rug**, in cabinet, Ourika Diamond in wool, £1,500, The Conran Shop. Resin **bison head**, £75, Abigail Ahern/ Edition at Debenhams. **Laundry basket**, £99, M&S. **Mohair throw**, £85, Bronte by Moon at Absolute Abode. Superlong stretched bleached cowhide **rug**, £1,308, The French Bedroom Company. **Faux cacti**, from £208 each, Abigail Ahern.



Desert *flowers*

The cactus is famed for having myriad uses – not least as a handy hanger for kitsch key rings.

Cloud teak **console table**, £895, Gautier Pelegrin for Noble & Wood. Shaggy Palm **lamp**, £375, Abigail Ahern. Cactus **vases**, from £21.50 to £68 each, Holly's House. Marble **lens box** (with lid), £55, Thomas Jenkins for Hay at Liberty. Boho **key rings**, £7 each, Bohemia Design. Small **cacti**, here and *opposite*, from a selection, Columbia Road Flower Market.



Hot spot

Matt leather and untreated wood are a smart combo, both in town and way out West.

Sonora Canyon sun-bleached-leather sling **chairs**, £4,800 each, Ralph Lauren Home. Kaleidoscope **blanket**, £72, The Shop Floor Project. Boucherouite (135) rag **rug**, £800; and Berber **drum**, £300 for a pair, Beldi Rugs. Elevation classical **guitar**, £44.99, Argos. Jungle Maun needlepoint **boots**, £229, Penelope Chilvers. **Faux cacti**, from £51.50 each, Abigail Ahern. Bamboo **tray** (used as a planter), £12, Linea at House of Fraser. Terracotta **flower pots**, from £1 each, Lasso.



Low rider

Arrange textured cushions and pouffes for your next style powwow.

Jute knitted **pod**, from £70, Next Home. Cima wood **coffee table**, £2,000, Smarin at Bon Appart. Teak **bowl**, £45, Raft. Three Head Cactus **candle**, on left, £18; and Bold Strings Cactus **candle**, £18, Aram Store. Holst printed-cotton **pouffe**, £89, made.com. Alanya kilim **floor cushion**, £225, OKA. Dandy needlepoint **slippers**, £249, Penelope Chilvers. Skinny tipped **ladder**, £375, Folklore. *Brown Horse* framed giclée **print**, £1,500, Meridith Martens at Trowbridge Gallery. For a similar metal **cup**, £20, try Very Good and Proper.



Boulder canyon

Like the noonday sun, a shot of orange pierces through a landscape layered with natural textiles in desert neutrals.

Hendricks three-seater velvet **sofa**, £1,600, Habitat. Alburni oak-veneer and steel **low table**, £458, Ligne Roset at Heal's. Beni Ouarain (163) wool **rug**, *on floor*, £3,800, Beldi Rugs. Bolero nickel and cotton **floor lamp**, £1,429, Oriano Favaretto for Cattelan Italia at Harrods. **Faux cacti**, from £168 each, Abigail Ahern. **Rugs**, *hung on balcony from left*, Gafsa Arrow Edge wool rug, £2,995, The Conran Shop; Bucherouite (135) rag rug, £800, Beldi Rugs; Alasht Blaneh wool kilim rug, £3,200; and Boucheroite Harlequin mixed-material rug, £750, both The Conran Shop. Bamboo **basket**, £10; and bamboo **tray**, £12, Linea at House of Fraser. André wool pebble **floor cushion**, *left*, £88; and Jacques wool pebble **floor cushion**, *right*, £128, Bon Appart. **Lens box** in yellow marble, *on low table*, £65; and **lens box** in green marble, £55, Thomas Jenkins for Hay at Liberty. For similar **rugs**, *on sofa*, try goatskin rugs, £140 each, Nordic House.



Wagon's role

Embellished wood brings a touch of rustic elegance to a campfire chow down.

Dressed in Wood **breakfast board**, £32; Dressed in Wood **serving board**, £59; and Dressed in Wood **centrepiece**, £89, all Marcel Wanders for Alessi. Enamel **plates**, £24.99 for a set of four, Falcon Enamelware. Esum **mugs**, £7 each, Raft. Leather 973-39406-13 **border**, £18 per m, Samuel & Sons. Wooden **spoons**, from £80 each, Nic Webb. Cold Brew **T bottle**, £20, Hario at Whittard. Pick up Sticks linen **napkins**, £62 for a set of four, Holly's House. Dolly **pegs**, £2 for a pack of 12, Hobbycraft. Wood **trunk**, from £24, Lasso.



Hang 'em high

Nothing says relaxed prairie chic quite like the widespread use of rattan.

Together walnut **dining table**, £3,550, Ilse Crawford for Studioilse by De La Espada at The Conran Shop. Älmsta rattan **chair**, £70, Ikea. Natural Peacock rattan **chair**, £795, Graham and Green. Block teak **stools**, £160 each, Raft. Marocco cotton-mix **rug**, £684, Matteo Cibic for Calligaris. Laine jute **lamp shades**, £45 each, Habitat. Ohio non-electric **pendant**, £25, Tesco Direct. Braided **flex**, £4.80 per m, Factorylux at Urban Cottage Industries. Esrum **mugs** and bamboo **basket**, as before. Stonewashed linen **tablecloth** in Silver, £54.99, Linen Me. **Driftwood**, from £20 per piece, Woodenzone. **Faux cacti**, as before. Vintage **jacket**, £75, Rokit.



Head honcho

With its Joshua tree silhouette, this portable valet is just the place for lonesome travellers to hang their headdress.

Sam canaletta walnut and wool **valet stand**, £2,404, Carlo Ballabio for Porada at Harrods. For a similar **love seat**, see the Ercol range, from £765, at Aram Store. Kashmiri Numdah Red Grid and Black Grid wool **rugs**, £480 each, Oliver James Mayes for Floor_Story. Rattan wall **mirrors**, £315 for a set of five, Graham and Green. *Horse Jump* framed giclée **print**, £1,500, Trowbridge Gallery. Belgravia suede **espadrilles**, £355 per pair, Aquazzura at net-a-porter.com. Native American-style **war bonnet**, £54.95, Boutique Camping.



Settler spirit

Cool, breathable and effortlessly stylish, sea grass makes the ideal textile for haciendas everywhere.

Brian King sea-grass wing **headboard**, £2,900, Paolo Moschino for Nicholas Haslam. Oak and hazel **tallboy**, £2,140, Sebastian Cox for Heal's. Berber **stool**, £400, Beldi Rugs. **Mattress**, £595, Loaf. Selena linen **flat sheet** in Yellow, from £108; and Selena linen **pillowcases** in Yellow, £44 each, Caravane at Bon Appart. Block Print cotton **throw** in Black, £89, Plümo. Nomad kilim **rug**, £109, M&S. Linen **flat sheet** in Pumpkin, approx £100, Merci. Folk **cushion**, £87, Niki Jones. **Faux cactus**, as before. *On wall*: **dreamcatchers**, from £25 each, and macramé **jewellery stand**, £30, all Urban Outfitters. Large Jannu Radhi wool **rug**, £552, Stitch by Stitch for Floor_Story. Lincoln leather **backpack**, £240, Forbes & Lewis. Plaited **basket**, £19.50, M&S. Tree Tops **mug**, £18, The Shop Floor Project.

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SHOP FOCUS *Showering*

Freshen up with these bathroom beauties

Research – Jo Bailey

Relaxing riad



Banyan mirror,
from £245, Loaf



Empire exposed
shower, £4,400,
Fired Earth



Slanted tweezers, £19.50, Tweezerman
for Benefit at Harvey Nichols



Corin Tile bath sheet,
£25, M&S

Livingetc
LOVES



Hitomi gown,
£115, Toast



Brazilian Supermask, £38, Artifact
Masque at The Conran Shop

Essence Bioprot Crema
Italia marble shower
tray, £1,722.69, L'Antic
Colonial at Porcelanosa



New Yorker

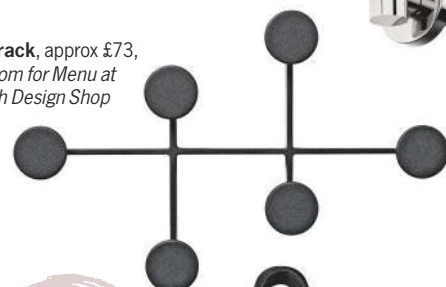


Spa soap pump,
£12, Habitat



Alto Star shower head
and traditional wall arm,
£69.99, Victoria Plumb

Coat rack, approx £73,
Afternoon for Menu at
Finnish Design Shop



Livingetc
LOVES



New Authentic
bath sheet, £59,
Lexington

Laundry
bag, £71,
Bloomingville



Storage caddy crate,
£16, Urban Outfitters

Happening china shower
tray with teak platform,
£886, Roca



Weekend luxe

Marble soap dish, approx £7, CB2



Livingetc
LOVES

Patagonia bath sheet, £25, John Lewis



Terrace tower, £399, West Elm



Natural sea sponge, £18, Anthropologie



Le Thermo exposed shower, from £1,720, Catchpole & Rye



Diffuser, £28, Millefiori Milano at Dotmaison

Calacatta marble shower tray, £510, Mandarin Stone



Steel appeal

Axor LampShower, £1,500, Nendo for Hansgrohe



Livingetc
SMART
BUY

Diamond bath mat, £12, Sainsbury's



Shower towel, £7.99, H&M Home



Point coat hook, £95, Liberty



Soap stones in Jade/Eucalyptus, £13, Pelle at The Goodhood Store



Hot Hoop towel rail, from £1,850, Bisque at West One Bathrooms

Universal 40 Colour shower tray, £432, Matki



Pure spa

Livingetc
LOVES



Waterfall shower,
£597.60, Vola

Comb, £10, Hay



Waffle bath towel,
£22, The White
Company



Vitriini box, £39, Iittala
at Twentytwentyone



Woodrow waste bin, £20,
Umbra at Red Candy



Nail brush,
£13.50, Turner
& Harper



Square tile-able shower tray,
£399, Homebase



Feeling Zen

Large resin coral,
£22, Kelly Hoppen



Lumière-Tondo
shower head,
£1,300, Bossini



Indigo tumbler,
approx £64, Waterworks



Extra-large towel, £27,
Scholten & Baijings for
Hay at Selfridges



Livingetc
LOVES



Jade Temple wash bag,
£24, Designers Guild



Decorative ladder,
£195, Orchid



Superplan Lily shower tray,
£950, Kaldewei



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HOMES

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page 66

LOVE SHACK

Two Aussie architects created a timber-framed hillside home

page 76

KIDS INC.

Sleek storage is the secret of success in this period terrace

page 84

TALL STORY

A lofty New York apartment makes a great pied-à-terre

page 92

ART FROM THE HEART
Paintings bring a little British quirk to a Danish townhouse

love SHACK!

Architects Rebekah and Casey rescued a run-down three-room wood cottage and turned it into a breathtakingly beautiful family home

Photography – Lisa Cohen
Production and words – Margie Fraser



Home profile

THE OWNERS Architects Rebekah and Casey Vallance and their daughters, Esther, five, Abigail, three, and Eve, one.
THE PROPERTY A three-room cottage in Brisbane, Australia, housing a study, a dining room/office and a children's bathroom, with a rear extension connected via a bridge and an atrium. The bridge contains the family library and leads to the kitchen and living room, which in turn connects to a tall tower with three floors. This tower includes a ground-floor children's bedroom, a master bedroom and en-suite bathroom on the middle floor and a rooftop terrace above.

LIVING AREA

A timber plinth forms the end of the living room banquette in the cosy lounge area – perfect for displaying ceramics by Sydney potter Geoffrey Denman and locally based Japanese ceramic artist Kenji Uranishi.

GET THE LOOK The banquette is upholstered in Sustainable Ecostyle fabric from Australian brand Sustainable Living Fabrics and made by Brisbane firm Batten Upholstery. The Dot cushion is by Hay at Australian designer furniture store Cult.



'The cheapest house in town'

– that was how Rebekah and Casey Vallance's home was advertised for sale when they first saw it 12 years ago. 'We were poor architects just out of uni and we went along to this auction with the romantic idea of owning what was then a dilapidated timber cottage, but never thought we'd succeed,' says Rebekah, laughing.

As luck would have it, no one else put in a bid and the house in Paddington, a central suburb of Brisbane, was theirs for a song. 'Although it was small, with just three rooms, it just had so much character,' recalls Rebekah, who runs Cultivar, an architectural research platform. 'It was part of the history of the area, dating back more than a hundred years. We just thought, well... let's have some fun with this!'

The fun, as it turned out, lasted more than a decade. The couple, with the help of a builder and Casey's father, an engineer, worked on the site at weekends for 11 years, developing and extending the home in stages while also living in it. During that time, their three daughters Esther, Abigail and Eve were born and the house grew to include spaces for them.

The original cottage sits on a long, skinny piece of land wedged between an old church hall, which had been used as a dance hall during the Second World War, and another cottage, giving rise to the couple's nickname for their home, 'The Leftover Space House'.

'We had about 90 sq m of usable land to work with,' says Casey, who is a director of Cox Rayner Architects. 'It was a huge challenge and the site's steep slope added to the restrictions. But we loved the complexity of the problem.'

Amazingly, their first drawings have remained true to the final outcome and a beautiful early maquette of their current home sits in pride of place in the dining room.

The prolonged building period meant details could be refined over time and those intricacies are evident in the furniture and fittings, such as the bespoke light shades, laser-cut privacy screens and crafted joinery.

The duo's home is also an exploration of new ways of engaging with the community. The street-facing side of the cottage has been converted into a study/spare bedroom, with pop-out windows displaying an ever-changing gallery of ceramics and curios. 'Passers-by often mistake the place for an art shop and pop their heads in the front door,' says Rebekah.

The entry hall opens directly on to their dining room that doubles as an office. The home then extends into wonderful open spaces that are as much inside as they are out. A garden-side atrium acts as the social hub, where family and friends gather and meals are taken alfresco. Alongside and above the atrium, a timber bridge leads visitors to the kitchen and living areas and then on to a tower of bedrooms and bathrooms at the rear. Each room has views of the garden and mountains. A rooftop terrace is a favourite cocktail spot in the evenings.

Walls fold away to let in sunlight, or can be closed in tropical storms. Filigree metal screens, designed to reflect the patterns of the peeling paint of the neighbour's wall, offer privacy as well as celebrate the history, textures and imperfections of the locale. In homage to the colonial buildings of the city, timber is used throughout, but treated with Scandinavian furniture oil to give a rich tone.

While the Vallances have enjoyed 12 years of 'testing, exploring and experimenting', they are now happy to relax and enjoy the completed project, pause and reflect. 'It feels like the beginning rather than the end.'

For more info on Cultivar, visit cultivar.net.au



LANDING

The stairwell has a ribcage of vertical timber battens, while elephant's ears shrubs form part of the subtropical jungle that lines the garden of the atrium.

GET THE LOOK Order a *Colocasia esculenta* (elephant's ears shrub) from rhsplants.co.uk.

ATRIUM

Old joists were restored and reversed to show their best sides on the walls, while the timber ceilings, walls and floors were stained with Scandinavian furniture oil. 'The house is like one big piece of furniture,' says Casey.

GET THE LOOK The dining table was designed by the Vallances and manufactured by Fine Design Furniture Australia and Brisbane firm Hirco Manufacturing. Feast Watson's Black Japan floor finish was used for the vertical joist boards, while its Scandinavian Oil was applied to the spotted gum hardwood wall and Cutek's Black Ash stain was used on the ceiling.





DINING ROOM/OFFICE ↑

The original wall timbers were treated with ebony stain. Ceramic objects by Cheryl Joy Ham, Rebekah's mother, grace the sideboard. A model of the home sits on the shelf. Bottles found on site during the renovation line the windowsill.

GET THE LOOK This is the V dining table, designed by the Vallances and made by Fine Design Furniture Australia and Brisbane company Hirco Manufacturing. The Lerod chair was designed by Alexander Lotersztain for Australian interiors specialist Derlot.



KITCHEN ↗

The décor was kept simple, with deep blue tiles breaking up the white cabinetry. Shelves are devoted to various *objets d'art*, while appliances are kept hidden behind the cabinetry.

GET THE LOOK The cabinetry was designed by the Vallances with satin-finish doors and drawers from local furniture maker RC & SD Bailey Manufacturing Ltd and Australian firm Laminex. The Waringa ceramic tiles are by Johnson Tiles Australia.

DINING ROOM/OFFICE

The dining room doubles as an office. Aboriginal artwork and Rebekah and Casey's travel photographs decorate the walls.

GET THE LOOK The Globe pendant lights from Sydney-based firm Koskela are used throughout the home. Find modern Aboriginal artwork at JGM Art.

Home truths

REBEKAH, BIG FAMILY LUNCH OR INTIMATE DINNER PARTY?

We love to share our family home with others. It was created for varied gatherings, from small discussions around a table to concerts on the terrace.

INSTRUMENT YOU'D LOVE TO PLAY? The piano. Casey's great-grandfather had a beautiful grand piano made as a wedding present for his wife – it would be so special to see it used again.

FAVOURITE LANDSCAPE? A stretch of land at Mount Mee, an hour's drive from Brisbane. It's surrounded by national park, pastureland and forest.

IF YOU COULD BRING BACK TO LIFE AN ARCHITECT, WHO WOULD IT BE AND WHY? Alvar Aalto. After visiting Finland as students, we came to truly appreciate his work.

HOW DO YOU AND CASEY MAKE BIG DECISIONS? We like to challenge each other, which leads to far richer design responses and solutions.



CHILDREN'S BATHROOM

A bath is concealed under the removable timber shower floor while a vertical garden grows up the windows and exterior wall.

GET THE LOOK The ceramic Waringa wall tiles are by Johnson Tiles Australia. The Flamed Black Granite floor tiles are from Australian company Classic Ceramics.





MASTER BEDROOM

This nest-like space looks towards the treetops and a view of the mountains on the city's edge. The bed is set into a platform of timber ledges. A window seat allows contemplation of the surrounds.

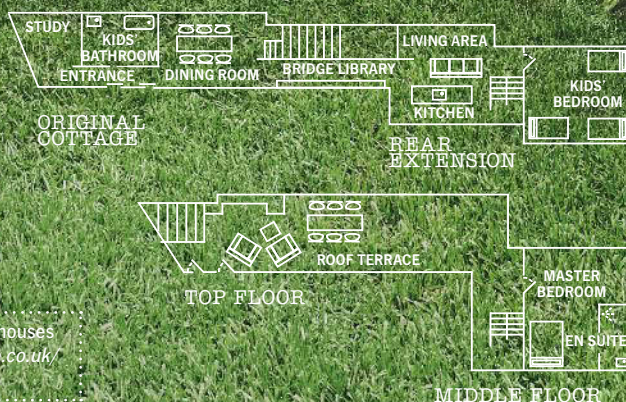
GET THE LOOK The linen sheets are by Sydney company Major Minor. The bed was designed by the Vallances and manufactured by Fine Design Furniture Australia. The window seat is upholstered in Sustainable Ecostyle fabric from Sustainable Living Fabrics and made by Batten Upholstery.

GARDEN TERRACE

The back garden acts as a lung for the house, drawing cool air up into it through the atrium. As a herb and vegetable garden exists around the corner, this side space is kept for quiet relaxation.

GET THE LOOK To find someone to make a bespoke corner bench, go to mybuilder.com.

The blueprint



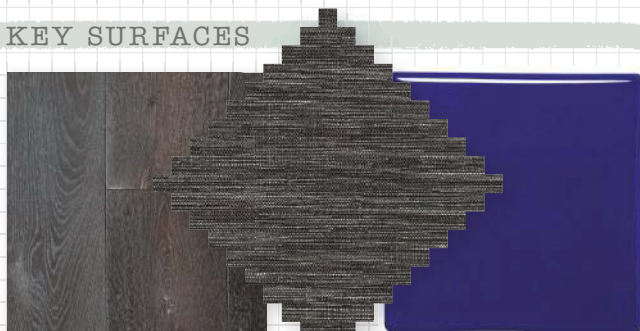
See more great houses
at housetohome.co.uk/house-tours



IDEAS toSTEAL

Wood is the new black. Embrace natural materials with earthy tones

KEY SURFACES



FROM LEFT Oak Hampstead Slate **flooring**, £84.85 per sq m, Ecora; Kintore 7620/11 **linen-mix** in Charcoal, £57 per m, Romo; and Columbine gloss ceramic **wall tile**, £74.95 per sq m, Original Style



KEY FEATURE Hallway library

There's no need to forego an entire room to realise your dream of having your own book shrine. Take inspiration from Casey and Rebekah and create a bespoke, space-saving hallway library. Customised options include a choice of single-depth shelves or those with a recessed bench on which to enjoy your private collection. Companies such as Kingerlee Joinery (kingerlee.co.uk) or The Hungerford Bookcase Company (thebookcasecompany.co.uk) could make this fantasy a reality.

KEY PRODUCTS



1



2



3



4

1 Phoenix cushion in Pale Olive, £28, made.com with Livingetc **2** Fence shade, £78, Dār Lighting **3** Ceramic small hanging planter, £29.50, Boskke **4** Hee steel dining chair, £119, Hay at nest.co.uk **5** Bowl mango wood side table, £370, Ayush Kasliwal at The Conran Shop **6** Bamboo Twist sake decanter, £15, Reiko Kaneko **7** Antonn tall walnut shelving unit, £595, Habitat



5



6



7

Photography – Paul Massey
Styling – Mary Weaver
Words – Fiona McCarthy

Kids INC.

Is it possible to have a serene, sophisticated home with four children aged eight and under? Yes, say Anita and Hugh – it's all in the planning... And the cupboards!

Home profile

THE OWNERS Anita Fraser, a photographer and budding interior designer, her husband Hugh, a property investor, and their children Ollie, eight, Claudia, six, and twins Jonty and Lara, four.

THE PROPERTY A Victorian terrace in southwest London. On the ground floor is a living room and kitchen-diner. Spread over the first, second and attic floors are four bedrooms (two en suite), a guest bedroom-cum-office, a bathroom, shower room and study.

LIVING ROOM

'This is where great storage comes into its own,' says Anita. 'I had the unit under the TV made with three very large drawers to house all the children's toys and games and the cupboard [at the other end of the room] contains all their shoes, coats and sports kit.'

GET THE LOOK The bespoke storage is by Evoke. This is the Carmel sofa by Jean-Marie Massaud, the Elise pouffe and the Bug armchair by Paola Navone, all from Poliform. The button-upholstered armchair from thefrenchhouse.co.uk is covered in a Designers Guild linen. The Mantis BS2 wall light and BS1 floor light by Bernard Schottlander are from SCP. The Nud Aqua pendants are from Haus.





DINING AREA

'I love the way the sliding doors open up the house to the garden and really blur the distinction between inside and out,' says Anita.

GET THE LOOK *This is a CH20 Elbow chair by Hans J Wegner for Carl Hansen & Søn. The table is from Bulthaup. The bespoke bench from thefrenchhouse.co.uk is upholstered in an Alma leather. The willow swallows are by Lizzie Farey. The painting by Gemma Fripp is from Wimbledon Art Studios.*

simple and useful and strongly believe a home can be both stylish and nurturing, responding to the daily rhythms of family life.'

The revamp didn't happen overnight, though. A year after moving into the house, the global financial crisis hit and initial plans to extend the ground floor with a side return were put on hold. As a temporary measure, 'We repainted all of the magnolia and multicoloured walls and replaced the dilapidated Seventies kitchen with a white one from MFI,' Anita recalls. For years, they endured a run-down plumbing system – 'I definitely don't miss the rattle and roar of the pipes when Hugh would have a shower after coming home late at night from work' – and increasing lack of space as the family grew. 'The lovely thing about living in the house for so long is that when the time finally came to renovate, I knew exactly what I wanted to do,' Anita explains.

It proved to be an extensive rebuild: not just rewiring, replastering and repainting the old terrace, but installing the latest mod cons, including underfloor heating and a wireless AV system, removing the hallway wall to open up the ground-floor space, adding a loft bedroom complete with en suite, creating the kitchen side return and putting a utility room into the basement. Keeping the original Victorian touches, such as the ceiling roses and corning, was important too, 'so as not to be too slick', but the key was to create 'a calm, plain space and then add layers of texture to make each room feel different,' says Anita. And while the downstairs floor is very open plan, 'I like that there are still distinctive areas to eat, watch TV and read, etc,' she says. 'So there are opportunities to retreat and do our own thing, but still be together at the same time.'

Anita's keen eye for detail, honed in a previous life as a lawyer, was an unexpected saving grace on the steep learning curve of her first major house renovation. It helped to ensure the project never veered far off track. When the glass panel that divides the living room and staircase (installed in lieu of the original dividing brick wall to satisfy fire regulations) was initially fitted upside down, she had the tenacity and expertise to get the glaziers to come back and fix it on the spot to avoid slowing up the next day's visit from the flooring crew.

In spite of such a pristine, uncluttered feel to the completed house, Anita insists she isn't a 'horrible mum who doesn't allow her kids any toys,' she says with a laugh. 'I love it when the living room is filled with their stuff and we have to tiptoe around building blocks and picnic rugs set for teddies and dolls, or when the kitchen becomes like an artist's studio with Play-Doh, paints and crayons. But I also love the fact that, at the end of the day, all of their toys have a "home", so within minutes everything can be returned to normal. I can dim the lights, light the candles and relax with my husband over a glass of wine.' Perfect proof that 'you can have a beautiful, elegant space that's child-friendly too,' adds Anita.

To learn more about Anita's first experience as an interior designer, visit anitafraser.com

'It was all about creating flow,'

says Anita Fraser of the radical transformation her once traditional London terrace underwent to become a light-drenched calm space. When she and her family first moved into the house in 2007, 'It was a nice home,' says Anita, 'but it had an awkward layout with a small galley kitchen and a double reception room where the children became "trapped".' It wasn't until an Aussie friend said 'Kids need a circuit to run around' and then she watched an online chat with Japanese architect Takaharu Tezuka about designing a kindergarten in the shape of a circle, that Anita realised what she had to do.

Not that she turned the house into a Grand Prix racing track; instead, Anita and her husband Hugh cleverly created a great feeling of space by knocking through partition walls to make a series of open living areas connected via discreet glass panels and parquet floors that flow effortlessly together. These then allow the eye to travel uninterrupted from the front of the house to the back and out into the garden.

In addition, plenty of light wells and customised storage, often concealed or disguised, leave each space looking sleek and streamlined. 'I wanted to create a place that made it even more enjoyable to live as a family,' says Anita. 'I like things to be elegant,

KITCHEN-DINER

'I had planned a white kitchen and then wobbled at the last minute as it's hard to design around pure white,' says Anita. 'So I went for subtle grey.'

GET THE LOOK This is Bulthaup cabinetry. The herringbone flooring is from Cheville Parquet.





Home truths

ANY HOUSE RULES? With four young children, we live by the rule that one of us can only leave the house if we have at least two of them in tow!

DO YOU HAVE A CULINARY SHORT CUT? I love to cook, but sometimes I cheat with a scrumptious lasagne popped into one of my own baking dishes by way of Bayley & Sage deli in Wimbledon Village.

WHAT'S THE LAST THING YOU SNAPPED ON YOUR PHONE? There were some amazing balloons hanging from the ceiling in the Anthropologie store in Richmond – they'd been coated with layers of plaster, sanded and then painted. Something I'd like to make for the kids.

DO YOU HAVE A KARAOKE SONG? I love karaoke! My all-time favourite is Don McLean's *American Pie*.

WHAT WAS THE LAST BOOK YOU READ? Susan Cain's *Quiet*, which is subtitled, 'The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking'. I found it fascinating.

MASTER BEDROOM →

Anita's minimalist style keeps her bedroom sleek and serene.

GET THE LOOK The built-in wardrobe is by Evoke. This is the Kanik side table by Trunk. The duvet cover and blanket are from The Conran Shop. The pink sheet and pillowcases are by Caravane.

← HUGH'S OFFICE

This space also doubles as a spare room, so the divan turns into a double bed. 'I wanted it to look more like a couch,' says Anita. 'Somewhere to "loungue", rather than be too bed-like.'

GET THE LOOK This is the Princess mattress in Tabac from Caravane. The bolster cushion and metal bowl are from The Conran Shop. The framed photograph is by Jimmy Nelson. The shutters are from Tudor Touch.

← BATHROOM

A false wall was built to hide the plumbing and there's a cupboard behind the mirror. The wall also allowed for an alcove to be created above the bath.

GET THE LOOK The bath, basin and fittings are from Alternative Bathrooms.



*'I love the idea of a house
with a scent – in summer,
this place smells of fig'*





← TWINS' BEDROOM

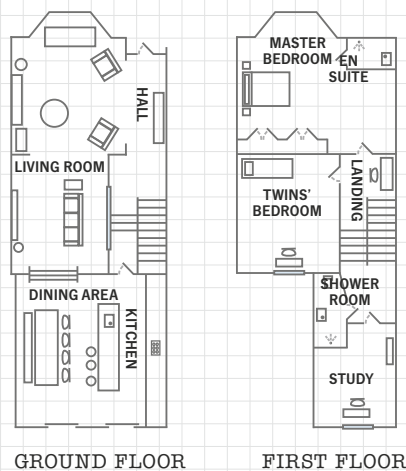
'This was an awkward space,' says Anita, 'and difficult to fit in normal-sized bunk beds, so I had them made slightly smaller with cupboards either side, allowing more room for train tracks and tea parties.'

GET THE LOOK The bespoke bunk bed and storage unit are by Evoke. The rug is from Heal's. The Flying Stork artwork is by Tamar Mogendorff at Bobo Kids. The Eames Elephant is from The Conran Shop.



See more great houses at housetohome.co.uk/house-tours

The blueprint

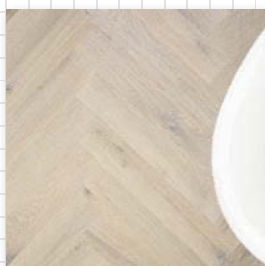




IDEAS toSTEAL

Mix luxe textures, industrial fittings and subdued shades for pared-back chic

KEY SURFACES



FROM LEFT Oak parquet flooring in Seashell, £74.94 per sq m, Fired Earth; Shirting absolute matt emulsion, £37 for 2.5l, Little Greene; and Blooms 34922143 cotton-mix in Nude, £51.30 per m, Camengo



KEY FEATURE Parquet flooring

Simple, elegant and bang-on trend, herringbone wood flooring adds instant character to a space. It's not only warm and welcoming, but also hard-wearing and easy to clean, so perfect for modern family life. Many colourways are available – dark will add drama, while using polished pale timber like Anita's throughout can help a space seem wider and brighter. As well as the new boards we suggest above, check out reclaimed parquet from sources such as Drummonds (drummondsflooring.co.uk).

KEY PRODUCTS



1 Carter wall lamp, £135, Shoreditch Lighting **2** Range ash side table, £79, Josie Morris for Made.com with Livingetc **3** Water hyacinth basket, £39, Toast **4** Dimple velvet footstool in Turmeric, £515, Loaf **5** Rose/Grey vase, £11, Holly's House **6** Grey Crosses cushion, £60, Georgia Bosson for Quirk **7** Lavenham linen love seat in Zinc, £3,395, The Conran Shop



TALL STORY



Houssein's pocket-sized New York apartment is filled from floor to ceiling with a quirky mix of cool collectables – each one with a tale to tell

Photography – Mark Seelen
Words and styling – Marc Heldens

Home profile

THE OWNER Houssein Jarouche, founder of homeware and lifestyle store MiCASA in São Paulo, Brazil.

THE PROPERTY An apartment in Chelsea, Manhattan. It has a hallway, open-plan living room/kitchen-diner/bedroom and a separate bathroom.

KITCHEN-DINER

Houssein covered the glass doors that conceal some of the kitchen cabinetry with colourful duct tape. Pendant lights, made from vintage glass and opaline shades, hang low over the space and help draw the eye up to the tin-tiled ceiling.

GET THE LOOK The pendant shades are from John Derian Company in New York. The vintage chairs include a Tolix design.



‘A creative, cultural cabana.’



HALLWAY ↑

Deep anthracite-grey walls give the entrance a dramatic feel. Even this glimpse of the space acts as a great vignette to Houssein's style, with its original paintings, vintage signs and plates.

GET THE LOOK The Fur series paintings are by New York artist Jessica Bajoros.

That's how Houssein Jarouche describes his New York pied-à-terre. He could add 'compact' to that too. Measuring just 87sq m, his petite pad takes up a modest portion of a block in Chelsea that, from the outside, looks like a trad office building. Step inside, though, and this bijou home packs a personality punch.

The open-plan live/sleep/cook space boasts 3.5m high windows looking towards Central Park. Its ceiling is covered in reclaimed tin tiles, while the lofty walls are home to original artwork, impala heads, vintage signs and a door decorated with what looks like Don Draper in a tux (but isn't!). And all this before you get to Houssein's collectables, lining a bank of shelves on one wall. 'All these objects, gadgets and pieces of furniture are a reflection of my personality,' he says. 'Playful, imaginative, inspiring, non-conformist and a tad challenging.'

Houssein unearthed many of these gems in Manhattan or Brooklyn, but increasingly heads to deepest New England in search of booty. 'Everyone already knows where to find nice vintage pieces and second-hand items in New York,' he says. 'You need to be more and more resourceful and willing to take adventurous travels to find unusual stuff.'

Treasure hunting is not just a pastime for Houssein, though – it's also his job. He's something of a cultural entrepreneur in his native Brazil and runs MiCASA, a shop selling both contemporary design and vintage gear in São Paulo. Searching for new stock is what brings him to New York four times a year, with his partner, interior designer Ana Strumpf, often joining him. 'You can find objects and furniture here that you actually never see in Brazil,' he says. Most of this will be transported south, but some of these finds wind up in his New York crash pad.

Given his day job, it's no surprise that Houssein has created a home full of extraordinary pieces, but it's also a lesson in confident, small-space living. Who says you have to go minimal to make the most of those square metres? By playfully grouping together his finds, Houssein gives the collections a loose sense of order and he has carved out specific 'zones' with his furniture to impose logic on the

open-plan layout. 'I've changed my concept of living here,' he says. 'In São Paulo, I have a 300sq m loft, whereas in Chelsea, I have relatively limited space. It's more than enough, though. In spite of its size, my little *cabana* lets me be part of bigger Manhattan. I feel connected to city life and its creative energy. I can then take that buzz back to Brazil.'

Houssein found his New York apartment three years ago. 'The floor plan was the same as it is now,' he says. 'I didn't need to change that.' But the space was crying out for redecoration, subsequently realised in Houssein's own unique style. 'The kitchen, including the cupboards and fridge, was already there, but mostly behind glass doors,' he says. Time to get out the duct tape! 'I started to make an artwork to cover up the doors. I've used duct tape on furniture and walls before, but this was the first time on glass – it worked even better!'

Despite only visiting his NYC crib sporadically, Houssein still finds time to tweak, creating new combinations and displaying recent finds – a process he describes as 'a kind of therapy'. A four-metre long metal shelving unit is where much of the rearranging takes place, at any time home to a mix of vases, gadgets, tools, dolls, figurines, books and wooden boxes. 'What you see here is more than simply a collection of artwork and objects,' says Houssein. 'I'm not interested in whether these pieces are good or bad or beautiful. They simply have to mean something to me.'

Learn more about Houssein's São Paulo shop at micasa.com.br



LIVING AREA

Although compact, the apartment has high ceilings and a wide bank of windows, which fill it with light.

GET THE LOOK The pair of armchairs were picked up in a Brooklyn flea market. The Scrapwood stools are by Dutch designer Piet Hein Eek. The Lust cushion is by Jonathan Adler.



KITCHEN-DINER

Industrial shelving, which stretches along one wall of the apartment, plays host to many of Houssein's collections, including figurines, toy cars, vintage tins and orange mugs from the Sixties.

GET THE LOOK The shelves are vintage. The leather love seat is from Holler & Squal in Brooklyn.

Home truths

WHAT WOULD WE ALWAYS FIND IN YOUR FRIDGE? Eataly NYC is a mandatory pit stop on my way from the airport. I stock up, then fill the fridge with groceries.

WHICH BOOK OR ALBUM DID YOU MOST ENJOY LAST YEAR? My favourite books and songs are not from last year, or even the year before. For music, I enjoy stuff from the Eighties and for books, I prefer to read my favourite artists' biographies, including those on Warhol and Basquiat, over and over again.

WHICH BRAZILIAN FURNITURE OR INTERIOR DESIGNER SHOULD WE KEEP AN EYE ON? Studio MK27, run by Marcio Kogan. His team is also working on a furniture project exclusively for MiCASA.

SUM UP YOUR STYLE IN THREE WORDS. I don't know!

WHICH MAGAZINES DO YOU TAKE FOR THE FLIGHT BETWEEN SÃO PAULO AND NYC? I prefer a night flight so I'm asleep... Or at least trying to sleep.

SLEEPING AREA

Houssein's taxidermy collection rises up on the bedside wall.

GET THE LOOK The drip portrait on the white door is by New York street artist Paul Richard. The white cross throw is by Jonathan Adler.



BATHROOM

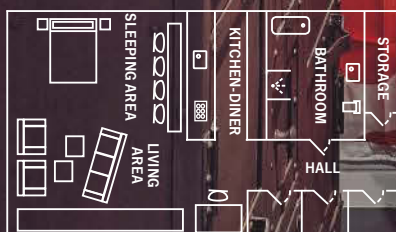
An engaging mix of second-hand furniture, quirky vintage pieces, pops of colour and yet more taxidermy continues in this space. Scrapwood wallpaper gives the room a rustic feel.

GET THE LOOK The Scrapwood wallpaper is by Piet Hein Eek. This is Marimekko's Unikko shower curtain.



See more great houses at housetohome.co.uk/house-tours

The blueprint





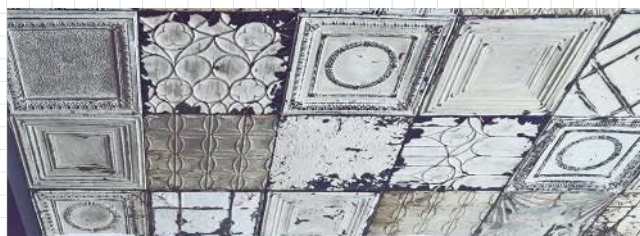
IDEAS toSTEAL

Pimp up an urban pad with salvaged treasures, arresting art and offbeat finds

KEY SURFACES



FROM LEFT Brooklyn Tin Tile 01 wallpaper, £219 per 10m roll, Merci at Rockett St George; Hague Blue estate emulsion, £38 for 2.5l, Farrow & Ball; and Natural engineered-oak flooring in Sunny White, £23.63 per sq m, Wood and Beyond



KEY FEATURE Tiled ceiling

Tin ceilings originated in America as an affordable way to dress a room. They not only emulated the look of decorative plaster, but also offered a measure of fire protection – a major concern for when cooking, lighting and heating were largely done with open flames. Originally stamped out of steel, it wasn't until they were plated in tin to help slow down rusting that the colloquial term 'tin ceilings' arose. Find vintage tiles at antiques shops such as Bristol's Dig Haüshizzle (dig-haushizzle.co.uk), priced from £70 per sq m.

KEY PRODUCTS



1 Gemsbok papier-mâché antelope head, approx £95, Near and Deer 2 Pop archive print, £425, Mark Vessey at Olivia Connolly 3 Pestle pendants, £318 for a set of four, Holloways of Ludlow 4 Brooklyn industrial shelving unit, £775, Alexander & Pearl 5 Gironde café chair, £70.80, Andy Thornton 6 Shoe last photo holder, £28, Ines Cole 7 Inferno double storage bed in Slate Highland Tweed, £995 (mattress not included), sofa.com

Art from the heart

It may be in Copenhagen, but Ditte and Tonny's super-chic home has more of an English vibe, thanks to bold art, luxe fittings and plenty of wit and whimsy

Photography – Mikkel Adsbøl
Words – Katrine Martensen-Larsen/House of Pictures





Home profile

THE OWNERS Ditte Anker-Svendsen, who organises art exhibitions internationally, her husband Tonny, CEO of an insurance company, and their two children, aged three and six months.

THE PROPERTY A five-storey townhouse, built in 1873, in the old Frederiksstad district of Copenhagen, Denmark. There's a kitchen and utility room in the basement and a reception room and dining room on the ground floor. The first floor has a study and living room, with the children's bedroom, a bathroom and dressing room on the second floor. The top floor has the master bedroom and en-suite bathroom, with a small kitchen area.

LIVING ROOM

Ditte took inspiration from her years living in England when decorating the living room. The coffee table and rug were bought in London and the long curtains have a classic English look. 'The chandelier came with the house, but was in really bad condition, so we had it cleaned and repaired. Now it looks great,' Ditte says.

GET THE LOOK The coffee table came from an antiques shop in London. The sofa was upholstered in fabric from Copenhagen store Tapet-Cafe. The armchair is from Jytte Demuth in Copenhagen. This is a Twenties Tabriz rug.



Mayfair chic meets Copenhagen cool

in this gorgeous rented house in the Danish capital. The property is one of nine – known as the ‘English Townhouses’ – built in 1873 as homes for academics. Today, it is home to Ditte and Tonny Anker-Svendsen and their two children. ‘I always wanted to live in one of these unique houses, so when I saw one advertised for rent, I jumped at the chance,’ says Ditte.

Narrow but light-filled, with a sweeping staircase linking its five floors, the house ticked all her boxes. What’s more, it had the wall space to accommodate the couple’s large collection of artwork. Ditte helps to organise international art exhibitions and brings her passion for her job home with her, working with consultant Susanne Højriis to select pieces by up-and-coming artists. ‘The funny thing is, we never buy work with a clear plan of where to hang it,’ she admits. ‘We buy 100 per cent with our hearts and find a place for it when we get it home. It can be slightly chaotic because we often end up rearranging rooms in order to put a painting or photograph in exactly the right place.’

Their contemporary taste in art is offset by a timeless decorating style that mixes new pieces with heirlooms and chic Danish classics with more decorative French and English pieces. ‘Our dining suite is from Rud. Rasmussen – it means a lot to me because it was a wedding present from my great-grandparents and was a part of their home when I was growing up,’ says Ditte. ‘We had the chairs upholstered three years ago at the Rud. Rasmussen workshop in Copenhagen, where they originally bought the furniture. The experience was really exciting; like time travel.’

Ditte’s own travels have also informed the décor. ‘I lived in London for many years, so my style has an English look that works well here,’ she says. Long curtains puddle on the floor; wallpaper from Cole & Son and de Gournay adds drama; polished floors are decorated with chequerboard paint effects. ‘I’m not into the shabby-chic style that’s been popular in Denmark in recent years,’ says Ditte. ‘Apart from in the kitchen, where it suits the room’s relaxed feel.’

As this is a rented property, Ditte and Tonny had to work with the existing layout. Changing the décor and hanging artwork was their way of putting their stamp on it. ‘For us, what makes a home your own is art that reflects the people living there. I know the story behind every piece on our walls, such as the holiday we bought it on,’ says Ditte. Her tip to buying art with longevity? ‘People can find it hard to find pieces to suit them and end up buying easily available, decorative art that they tire of quickly. Be patient and really look for pieces you love.’

For Ditte, patience – for finding the perfect house, in the perfect place – has paid off. ‘In a way, I feel this is my first “real” home,’ she says, laughing. ‘I’ve lived in different countries and for the first time, I feel I have the opportunity to put down roots, to rediscover furniture that has been in storage for years and surround myself with pieces that have real meaning to me and my family. We’ve come home.’

Ditte was advised on her art collection by art dealer Susanne Højriis (bojriis@mail.dk)



DINING ROOM ↑

'With two small children, we haven't used this formal dining room as much as we thought we would,' admits Ditte. 'I love how we have decorated it, though, especially the black silk panels on the walls.'

GET THE LOOK The table and chairs are by Kaare Klint for Rud. Rasmussen. The curtains are by Rubelli. The silk paper is by Cole & Son. The bronze plinth-mounted artwork is by Jens-Flemming Sørensen.

← RECEPTION ROOM

'I love the elegance of this room, especially the de Gournay wallpaper we chose,' says Ditte. The floor is painted with a chessboard pattern and varnished.

GET THE LOOK This is de Gournay's Eden wallpaper.

HALLWAY ↗

The script artwork, a wedding gift from Tonny to Ditte, adds a touch of intrigue to the pared-back hall.

GET THE LOOK The artwork is by French artist Sophie Calle.

KITCHEN →

The basement kitchen is the most informal part of the house and is where the couple and their young children eat and play. Like the rooms above, the floor is painted, but here, the blue and cream colourway gives a lighter, more fun feel.

GET THE LOOK The table and chairs are from Copenhagen antiques store Fil de Fer. The chair cushions are covered in Maremma Rigato fabric by C&C Milano.



MASTER BEDROOM

Situated under the eaves, the master bedroom suite is almost like a self-contained apartment, with its own bathroom and even a kitchenette.

GET THE LOOK The bed is by Swedish firm Hästens. The headboard and loose cover are from Tapet-Cafe. The sofa and footstool/table are by Copenhagen company Paustian. The lamps are from Copenhagen store Rue Verte.

Home truths

WHO INSPIRES YOU, DITTE?

My mother – she is always around for a final critique and approval on most purchases.

WHO WOULD BE YOUR DREAM

DINNER GUEST? After hearing him speak at a small function in London, Bill Clinton.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD? It's

a residential area, but in the heart of the city and it's close to the harbour.

WHAT DO YOU WISH YOU'D KNOWN AT 16? Tolerance and patience.

WHAT DO YOU MISS ABOUT LONDON? The great museums and collections.

MUST-READ? *Det lykkelige Arabien (Arabia Felix: the Danish Expedition of 1761-1767)* by Thorkild Hansen, about the Carsten Niebuhr expedition to Yemen.



DRESSING ROOM

The stunning dressing room is decorated with Toile de Jouy wallpaper that covers the wardrobe doors. The central seating divides the room into his and hers sides.

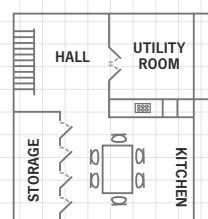
GET THE LOOK The wallpaper is by Sanderson. This is a custom-made seat by Tapet-Cafe covered in silk by Osborne & Little.



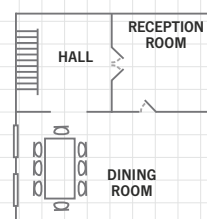
*'The wallpaper was already here when we moved in.
I love its private salon look and I commissioned
the seat to match its haute couture style'*



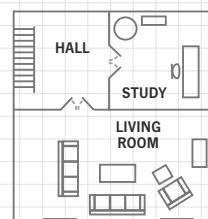
The blueprint



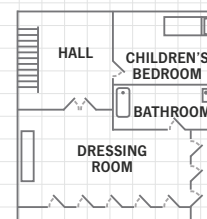
BASEMENT



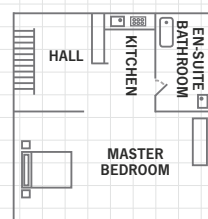
GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



THIRD FLOOR

EN-SUITE BATHROOM ↑

The smattering of gold-leaf tiles adds subtle glitz to the mosaic designs.

GET THE LOOK The mosaic tiles are from Danish outfit Mosaikhjørnet. The taps are by Danish brand Toni.

EXTERIOR →

The property is one of nine 'English Townhouses' built around a shared courtyard in Frederiksstad, one of the oldest parts of Copenhagen.



See more great houses at housetohome.co.uk/house-tours





Art from the heart

It may be in Copenhagen, but Ditte and Tonny's super-chic home has more of an English vibe, thanks to bold art, lush fittings and plenty of wit and whimsy

IDEAS toSTEAL

Team bold modern art, lush fittings and a pale palette for a sleek Scandi vibe

KEY SURFACES



FROM LEFT Madrid mix mosaic glass wall/floor tile in White, £299.92 per sq m, Topps Tiles; Architects-White flat emulsion, £41 for 2.5l, Zoffany; and Seraphina II FDG2366/04 cotton in Vintage Blue, £59 per m, Designers Guild



KEY FEATURE Chequerboard floor

Ditte and Tonny's downstairs kitchen is the most informal zone in the house and is where they and their two young children eat and hang out. They've painted the floor in a typical Scandi chequerboard pattern, in a light colourway to reflect the relaxed vibe. This is an easy look to achieve yourself - Little Greene (littlegreene.com) has a great range of floor paints, from £27 for 1l, which will help you to create a similar scheme. Or hire a painter and decorator to do the job for you via ratedpeople.com.

KEY PRODUCTS



1



2



1 Grey and Yellow Abstract Art Painting print, £109.99 (frame not included), T30Gallery at art.co.uk 2 Juliette chandelier, £995, Alexander & Pearl 3 Hemingway brass coffee table, £425, Within 4 Derome lamp, £760, Russell Pinch for Pinch 5 Savanna cushion, £65, India Jane 6 Blakes cotton ottoman in Persian Grey, £299, Made.com 7 Medium Pavlova linen sofa in Cadet Classic, £1,615, Loaf

3



4



5



6



7

Retro wool **wing chair** in Frost Grey, £449; Box Frame **coffee table**, £349; and Natural Tree Stump **side table**, £179, all West Elm



Chindi Colourblock **cushion cover** in Pale Harbor, £44, West Elm

Martini cast-aluminium **side tables**, £129 each, West Elm

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10 ideas for hallways

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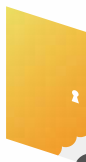
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Productetc

EDITED BY AMY MOOREA WONG



Tasty tones

Add some spice to your kitchen with this bright modern unit from Schüller's Biella range. Curry is just one of 28 palettes in the ultra-slick collection. Other mouthwatering options include a punchy Pistachio, Sage Green and Cream Vanilla. If you don't want to overhaul the whole room, add a dash of colour with individual shelves or cabinets. From £7,350 for the configuration shown (inbouse ltd.co.uk)



BLIND FAITH

Getting out of bed in the morning just got easier with QMotion's Transition blinds. Controlled via an app or remote control, you'll have sunlight streaming into your bedroom within seconds (or not...). Try the semi-sheer privacy mode for the blind equivalent of hitting snooze.

From £748 (qmotionshades.co.uk)

SPLASH OF COLOUR

Bring some zing to your garden with the Myrtifolia water fountain from Laorus. It's this summer's most chic way to house your hosepipe (stored behind). Pick from 14 shades, including this Flash Green. £515 for a fountain, bucket and tripod stand (barbed.co.uk)



Livingetc
LOVES

SUN SAVVY

When basking on the beach, it can be tricky to work out when it's time to apply more sunscreen. Cue June by Netatmo, a bracelet device that works with a smartphone app to track your UV exposure based on your skin type, tells you which SPF you should be using and when to reapply it. Genius! £118 (uk.spacenk.com)



Turn it on

Based on industrial boiler-room controls (note the temperature moderating handle in the centre), this nickel Regulator gooseneck tap is part of US bathroom and kitchen specialist Waterworks's high-end range. The company has launched more than 200 new products and offers a full kitchen design service. From £9,025.44 (uk. waterworks.com)



PANE GAIN

Minimalist fans, rejoice! Matki's Wet Room Straight Panel is as sleek as they come. The single pane of glass seems almost to hover next to your shower, with just a subtle chrome edge highlighting the divide between spaces. Let the illusion wash over you...

From £559 (matki.co.uk)

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A LIFE IN DESIGN

HARRIET ANSTRUTHER

The British interior designer on her love of mixing old and new, her obsession with the colour pink and the royal souvenir she keeps in her downstairs loo

Interview – Charlotte Luxford



1 and 4 Be inspired by London's River Café and choose Glitter paints in Black and Pink, £68.50 for 2.5l each, Bristol Paint **2** A printed silk designed by Harriet for Kit Kemp's Fimdale Hotel Group **3** Harriet at home **5** The basement kitchen in Harriet's pink-tastic west London home **6** Pink faux-budgie, £14, Rockett St George

With an architect mother and artist father, it's little wonder Harriet Anstruther developed a sense of style. She followed her dad into the art world before pursuing a career in the textile industry (you'll find her printed silk scarves in the V&A's permanent collection). After she was asked by her friend Kit Kemp to do some work for the Covent Garden Hotel, she decided to 'up her game' and studied at Inchbald School of Design, launching her own studio just three years ago. Allied to Harriet's talent, an unmistakable sense of humour prevails in her interiors, which is why we're big fans of her work.

How would you describe your style?

I'm loath to describe it, really, but others have said it's very English in its eclecticism – comfortable yet glamorous. There's a mix of past and present in my work. Even if I'm doing a new build, there's so much you can learn from the past and I'm just as passionate about something that's very ancient as I am about something new and refined.

How do you strike the right balance of old and new?

I try to learn the back story of a home before I start work on it. The Survey of London is an amazing online source of information on listed buildings in the capital. I try to weave that history into the physical space, mixing it with objects that are meaningful to the owner. It's curating, really.

What inspires you?

The physical, tactile nature of art, which probably harks back to my childhood surrounded by artists, writers and actors. I like to visit the Flowers Gallery in Shoreditch and the Chisenhale Gallery in Dalston – very cutting edge! I also love the student degree shows; they're unassuming, but full of energy. Art forms a major part of my latest project, where we've commissioned six or seven artists to do very site-specific pieces for an estate in Buckinghamshire.

Do you have any design bugbears?

I notice the details, so if things aren't lined up, it aggravates me. When something's done properly, you don't notice the small stuff. Oddly, I had a real problem with the colour yellow →

for many years and I still don't like it much – I can't stand it with green, especially. A lot of it has to do with associations: my grandmother made me a yellow dress and it itched like crazy! I also remember my mum had an apple-green Citroën 2CV that I just adored and my father often wore pink velvet trousers.

How have you used colour in your projects?

I have a pink basement kitchen in my house, which was inspired by the fantastic spray-painted luminous doors in the loos at the River Café in Hammersmith. I discovered the paint came from Bristol Paint and said, 'Right, that's it. I'm having a pink kitchen!' The company also does a glitter paint that's fantastic – I painted a drawing room black and then used it over the top. The result was quite astonishing.

And what about texture?

The more you layer something, the more textural it becomes, but it can still be subtle. For example, right now I'm looking at a German designer called Veronika Wildgruber. She's done these wonderfully simple school-style chairs, with the wooden seats sculpted to look like fabric. It gives them another dimension.

How do you approach your projects?

Firstly by gauging the client's needs, both functionally and emotionally, which can often be two very different things. It's like giving presents: I'd never give someone a gift that I didn't like. It's about striking a balance between introducing them to something new, while also creating a space that gets their pulses racing.

What's your advice for choosing furniture?

Ask yourself honestly what you want the piece for. If you're choosing a sofa, decide whether it's for looking at, or if it's for slouching around in your jimjams and eating Pot Noodle. I don't believe in chucking out the old and making everything new, new, new. It's best to mix things that complement each other. Parties are way more interesting when there's a mix of ages!

Where do you source pieces from?

Anywhere from Habitat and eBay to one-offs and expensive gallery pieces. I love the furniture from the Campana Brothers and antique textile dealer Katharine Pole sells beautiful things – I'm a big fan of Toile de Jouy and she sells a lot of that. I also like the work of Arik Levy, who makes lovely polished-steel sculptures, but also little coffee tables and things. Tom Dixon's stuff is great – all you need is a small piece from his Eclectic range and bingo!

What's your most treasured find?

The old fire bucket I bought, which I turned into a hand basin at home. It must have been stolen from a palace because it's got a George VI crowned cipher on it!

What's your own home like?

It reflects who I am – that I have dogs and I like art. It also shows there are pieces I couldn't bear to part with, such as a Mèret Oppenheim table, and that I have an immature sense of humour. I've got a neon-pink flamingo in my office that my husband lovingly gave me one Christmas. It sits among all sorts of rather valuable things, so it looks ridiculous in context!

Any tricks for quick fixes?

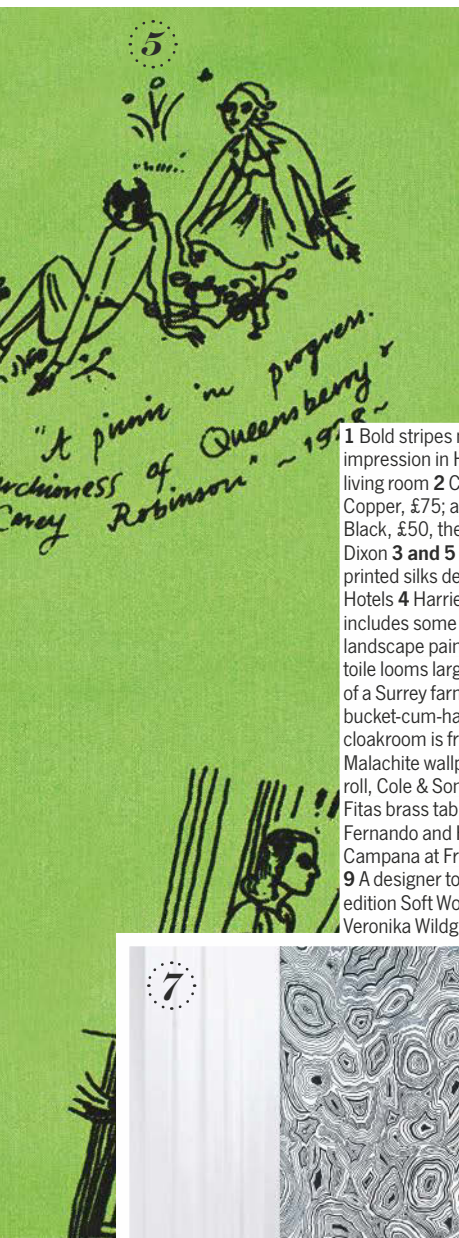
Paint everything white; change the handles on things; look at the small stuff. Lighting is difficult to do well – it's not a cheap thing to fix, but it can make a huge difference to how you feel in a space.

For more info, visit harrietanstruther.com



'If things aren't lined up, it aggravates me. When something's done properly, you don't notice the small stuff'





1 Bold stripes make a big impression in Harriet's Georgian living room 2 Cast Mini Jack in Copper, £75; and Cast Mini Jack in Black, £50, the Eclectic range at Tom Dixon 3 and 5 More of Harriet's printed silks designed for Firmdale Hotels 4 Harriet's bedroom includes some of her father's landscape paintings 6 An oversized toile looms large in Harriet's revamp of a Surrey farmhouse 7 The royal fire bucket-cum-hand basin in Harriet's cloakroom is framed by Fornasetti Malachite wallpaper, £76 per 10m roll, Cole & Son 8 Classic design... Fitas brass table, approx £17,000, Fernando and Humberto Campana at Friedman Benda 9 A designer to watch... limited-edition Soft Wood chair, £1,300, Veronika Wildgruber at Mint



Photography (Harriet's living room, bedroom and cloakroom) Paul Raeside; (Surrey farmhouse) Quintin Lake; Design Harriet Anstruther Studio

InStyle

FREE THIS MONTH

ST.TROPEZ GRADUAL TAN IN SHOWER LOTION



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PHOTOGRAPH BY JASON LLOYD-EVANS. *FREE GIFT IS EXCLUSIVE TO NEWSSTAND COPIES

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CASSIE STEER,
INSTYLE BEAUTY DIRECTOR

INSPIRATION gallery

Let the outside in

*Bring the great outdoors into
your bathroom for the ultimate
spa experience*

NATURE CALLS

The panoramic countryside view is the crowning glory here. With the tub set in prime position and the glazing pushed open, you can't help but admire the aspect.

GET THE LOOK This project was completed by Gregory Phillips Architects – a similar look would cost from £30,000, depending on the size of the space.

Words – Charlotte Luxford
Picture research – Nicola Rowe

GLAZE OVER ↓

Install your shower bang opposite a leafy view. With a floor-to-ceiling window, protect your modesty with a frosted panel...

GET THE LOOK Try Frostbrite window film, from £24 for a 150 x 100cm panel, from The Window Film Company. For a similar freestanding shower, check out the Vola FS3, £2,852, at Liquid Design.



LUSH LOOK

Create your own mini Eden with trailing foliage and pebbles. The verdant greenery pops against a stormy grey backdrop.

GET THE LOOK The Premium Semi Inset basin, £486, from CP Hart is similar to these. To re-create the trailing-foliage look, try using artificial Small Leaf Ivy Trailing Plants, £19.99, from Climbing Plants Direct.



DOWN POUR

Why not literally extend the bathroom into an outside space? This simple addition is a cool idea for alfresco showers in the summer – what better way to wake up in the morning?

GET THE LOOK This bathroom was designed by South African construction firm Inizio Homes. The Roca Element shower mixer, £625, at Home Supply is similar to this. For a bath in this style, try the Trend freestanding tub, £629, at Bathstore.

ABOVE AND BEYOND ↓

This roof light doesn't just bring in light, it frames a tree canopy, giving the space a dappled, courtyard feel.

GET THE LOOK Roof-maker sells fixed flat roof lights, from £864. The Geo square basin, £520, is similar to these; use a mix of floor and wall tiles from the Urban Slate range, from £39.17 per sq m, to re-create the look, all Fired Earth.

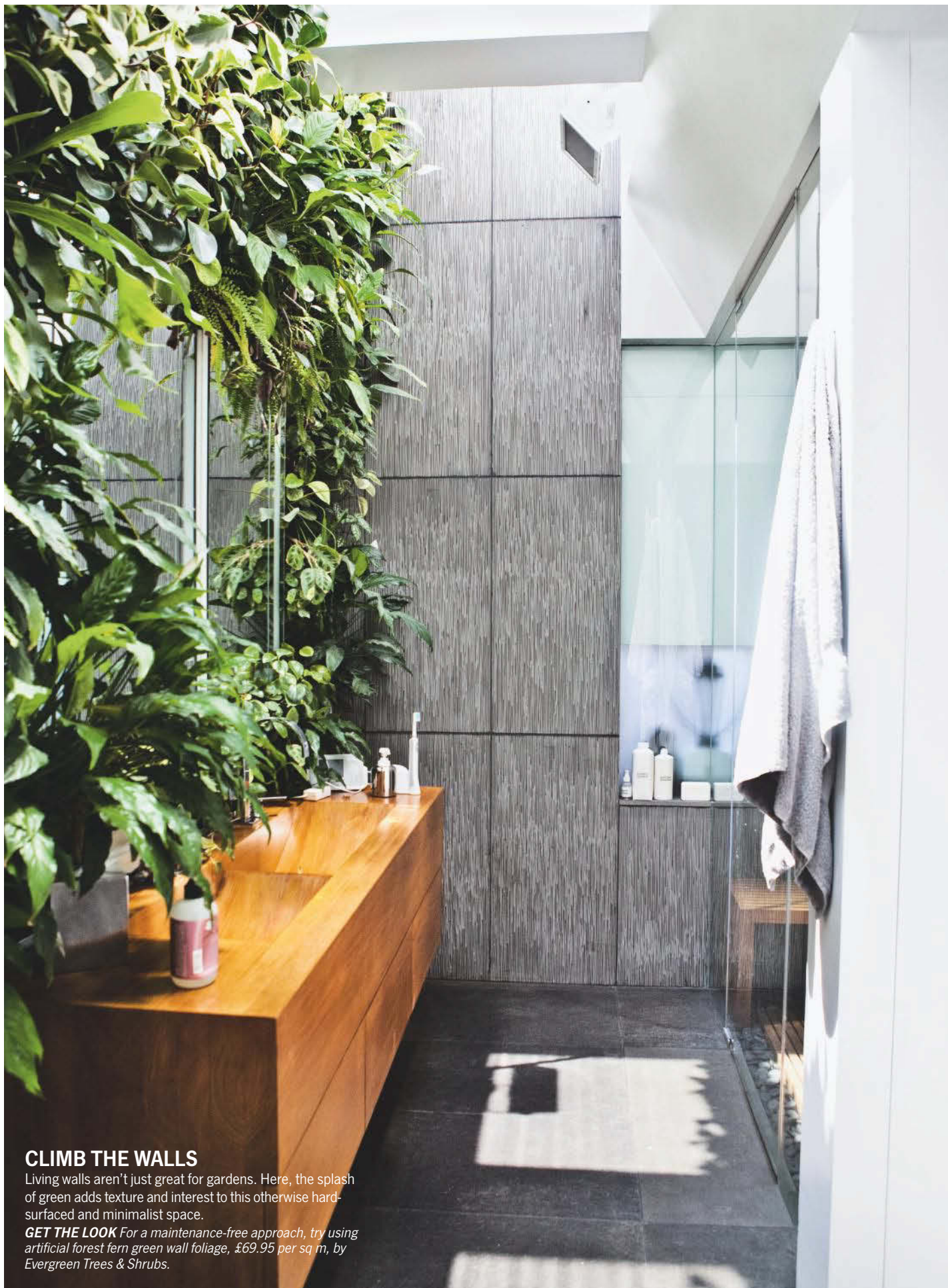


HOT HOUSE

The mass of tropical plants teamed with the floor-to-ceiling blue and white tiles give this wet room an ultra-chic Palm Springs vibe, while the skylights provide the rays.

GET THE LOOK These are Féz tiles by American company Granada Tile. For similar, try the Cubic 10433 cement tiles, £78 per sq m, by Mosaic Del Sur.





CLIMB THE WALLS

Living walls aren't just great for gardens. Here, the splash of green adds texture and interest to this otherwise hard-surfaced and minimalist space.

GET THE LOOK For a maintenance-free approach, try using artificial forest fern green wall foliage, £69.95 per sq m, by Evergreen Trees & Shrubs.



SET THE SCENE

No window? No problem. Create your own picture-perfect view with a stunning mural. This *trompe l'oeil* wallpaper leads the eye down the tree-lined path, making the room seem bigger.

GET THE LOOK For a similar mural, try Surface View's Young Pines, £60 per sq m. Kaldewei's Conoduo bath, £749.95, at Victorian Plumbing is like this one.



NEXT MONTH IN...

Livingetc

THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE

Celebrating timeless classics with brilliant period home updates,
a new take on neutrals, plus navy blue rebooted

DON'T MISS THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE
ON SALE 6 AUGUST

10 IDEAS FOR HALLWAYS

Big up these overlooked spaces with clever decorating techniques

Words – Charlotte Luxford
Picture research – Nicola Rowe

1 VISUAL TRICKERY

Let mirrors and paint effects play with the senses

BEST FOR Turning a poky hall into a seemingly spacious room.

DESIGN KNOW-HOW Wide-striped wallpaper placed horizontally works a treat in smaller spaces. To make a hall appear even broader, paint the far wall in a rich accent colour, such as a cobalt blue or charcoal black, so it appears to expand as you advance down the space. Another idea is to paint the doors leading off the hall in a darker shade than the walls.

TRICK OF THE TRADE In small

areas, mirrors are your friends – not only will they bounce the light around, they can also make a space seem wider if you place a large-format mirror on one side wall. Ideally, go for something such as built-in storage with mirrored sliding panelled doors for maximum effect. To lengthen a hallway, put a mirror at the end of the space to draw the eye in.

LITTLE BLACK BOOK For mirrored sliding doors, try Howdens Joinery, Ikea and Wardrobe Doors Direct.

WALLPAPER PROJECT

This clever design leads the eye down the space and makes it appear wider because of the broad stripes and chevron floor tiles. A simple blue and white scheme keeps it calm.

For a similar look, try teaming Glastonbury Stripe wallpaper, £65 per 10m roll, by Fabrics & Papers, with Fired Earth's Grau encaustic tiles, £224.70 per sq m.

2 DISPLAY CASE

Turn your entrance hall into a gallery

BEST FOR Adding interest and character to a narrow space.

DESIGN KNOW-HOW Hanging a collection of your favourite artwork or showing off a group of star objects is a fabulous way of turning your hallway from a mere thoroughfare into a lived-in area that has its own personality. It will also add to the illusion of space because of how much more there is to catch the eye.

CLEVER SHORT CUT If your hallway's particularly narrow, lip shelving is a flexible way of displaying art. Ikea's Ribba picture ledge is a smart solution at £7.90 for a W115 x D9cm shelf.

LITTLE BLACK BOOK You can design your own shelving system with depths as little as 14cm on Shelfstore, or consult Architect Your Home for a more bespoke solution.



FASHION ↑ PROJECT

A hall is the perfect place to show off your particular passion. This witty tableau plays on the traditional 'console table and mirror' set-up you often find in a hallway and gives it a twist. An ornate mirror and table have been carved up and spray-painted white to blend in with the minimalist scheme, creating the perfect backdrop for the shoes on show. *To re-create the look, pick up cheap furniture at flea markets or charity shops and spray paint it at home. Or get a professional to do the job – London Furniture Spraying will take on the task from approx £45 per sq m.*

← ART PROJECT

The homeowners have been creative with their narrow hallway. Rather than choosing traditional shelving, which would take up valuable space, a thin ledge with a variety of propped-up artwork and piles of magazines on the floor gives the area an informal and intimate feel. This is reinforced by the dark-painted ceiling, while a striped rug softens the look.

Try West Elm's Deep Picture Ledge, £49 for a 122cm shelf.



3 BRAVE NEW WALLS

Go beyond the pale with a colour-pop design

BEST FOR Creating a sense of surprise in this little-used space.

TRICK OF THE TRADE Unlike many other rooms in the house, you don't have to contend with loads of existing furniture or architectural details in a hallway, so the walls can be the focus of your scheme. If you have a dado rail, it's best not to split the wallpaper design – continuity is preferable in corridors, as just wallpapering up to the dado will make the walls seem shorter and the ceiling lower.

BLAST THE BUDGET Be expressive and play with scale. A massive,

blown-up mural will pack a punch in a hallway and dramatically alter perspective. This is a bold but clever trick to rely on if your space is on the small side. It's also an easy way to add a sense of humour and character to the quiet and previously ignored part of the home. Surface View offers gorgeous murals from £60 per sq m.

LITTLE BLACK BOOK Fabrics & Papers, Mr Perswall, Wallpaper from the 70s, Rockett St George and Timorous Beasties stock bold and bright wallpapers that will instantly jazz up your space.



COLOUR PROJECT ↑

'The entire apartment is made up of schemes using shades of blue, including this vivid turquoise hallway, enhanced by touches of black,' says Flora de Gastines of French architectural and design firm Double G. 'The brief for the entrance was to create a graphic effect with a Sixties feel, but also to treat the space as a kind of boudoir with a strong identity.' *The wallpaper is Hicks Hexagon, £72 per 10m roll, by Cole & Son. For a similar blue paint, try Dulux's Stonewashed Blue eggshell, from £13.79 for 500ml.*

GRAPHIC PROJECT →

This striking Cole & Son wallpaper adds punch to a period hallway, with its Georgian-style feature arch. 'I loved the dynamic harlequin blocks of colour in this design and I wanted an element of surprise when you walk in,' says homeowner and UK interior designer Rebekah Caudwell. 'I like colours and configurations that jangle just enough to wake you up and make you think.' *The Circus wallpaper, £335 per 3m panel, has been paired with bespoke Julian Chichester chairs.*



WINE STORAGE PROJECT

'Space is really valuable in London, so it's important that every area is used,' says Beth Clancy, interior designer at Chelsea-based Northwick Design. 'In this house, the architects MBA had proposed a separate cellar, but we wanted to incorporate the elegant look of the wine more fully into the interior. By using clever lighting and sliding glass doors, we were able to create an interesting space that leads you through to the rest of the house.' The cost of the wine storage project was approx £10,000.

4 MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Make your hallway and landings work harder with dual-purpose solutions

BEST FOR When you don't have room elsewhere for a study or cellar.
TRICK OF THE TRADE Landings are often left unused, but are definitely worth capitalising on. If you have a window on the landing between two sets of stairs, you could put recessed storage around it. This area can also be used for a home office or transformed into a concealed study.
CLEVER SHORT CUT If you're considering installing wine storage,

John Lewis offers a pre-ordering measuring service for £50, which is redeemable against the cost of any of its three bespoke wine-rack ranges. For a non-fitted approach, its 42-bottle rack for £45 is a great solution to install under the stairs.
LITTLE BLACK BOOK For a small installation job such as this, it's worth consulting a local builder – check out ratedpeople.co.uk or mybuilder.com for reputable tradesmen in your area.



← BOOKCASE PROJECT

Renowned designer Orla Kiely made use of her landing by creating a compact reading nook around the window. Highlighted in one of Kiely's trademark olive-green shades, the space has been transformed into a focal point, as well as giving a function to a potentially vacant area. *Andrew Morton Furniture could create a similar reading nook for approx £3,500.*

BUNK BED PROJECT →

'The bunk beds on the upper-floor landing of this home's staircase make the most of a "found" space and work as a fun little niche for visiting grandchildren,' says Dawn Fritz, marketing manager at US architecture and planning firm Historical Concepts. 'The stairway and bunk beds receive natural light through a dormer window, making it a nice place to sit and read during the day too.'

Barbara Genda Bespoke Furniture could create similar bunk beds for approx £2,400-£3,000.



5 LIGHT THE WAY

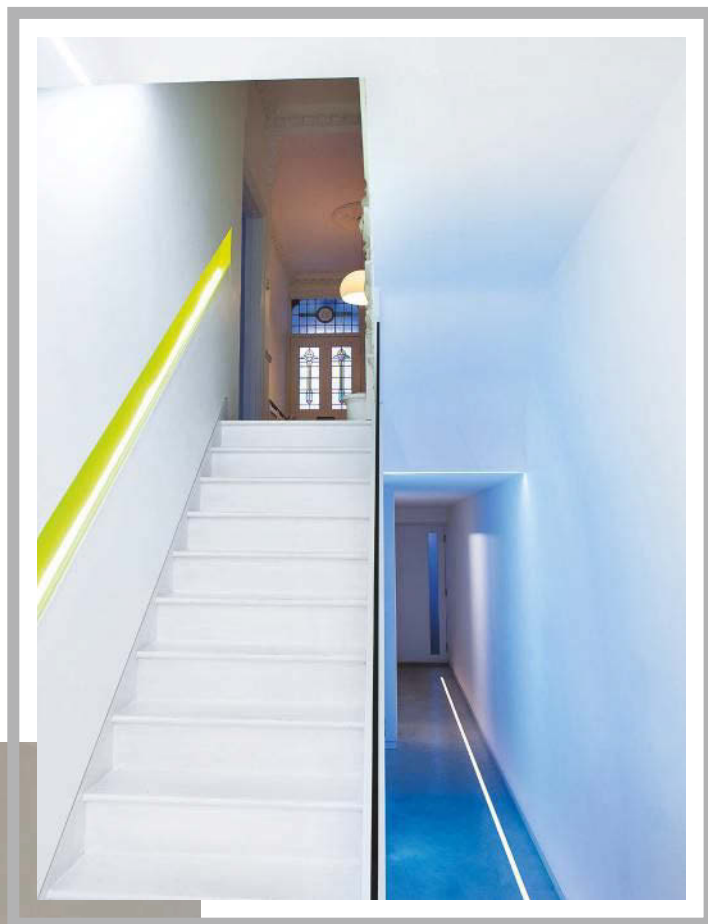
Illumination is key to an entrance

BEST FOR Setting the right mood in your hallway day and night.

TRICK OF THE TRADE For a successful lighting scheme, it's best to layer different types, such as downlighters, strip lighting and floor lights. Using only just downlighters will create a flat, harsh light and make a space seem smaller as no light is reflected off the walls and ceiling. So it's best to mix these with fittings that will wash the walls and floors with light, especially up stair treads.

EXPERT TIP 'Staircases are often a dramatic feature in their own right, so your lighting should enhance rather than compete with the space,' says Rebecca Weir, creative director at London-based Light IQ. 'Linear LEDs recessed into a handrail work well, as do low-level step lights. Linear lighting includes key considerations, such as the location of steels and joists.'

LITTLE BLACK BOOK Ikea, Häfele and Collingwood Lighting all do linear lighting.



COLOUR BLOCK PROJECT ↑

'The space on the lower-ground floor of this Victorian terrace was awkward and heavily constrained by low ceiling heights,' says Jonathan Plant, managing director at London-based Lipton Plant Architects. 'We put in a series of low-energy, colour-changing strip lights, concealed within the structure. The lighting can be seen from the front door.' The C1 flush strip lights are from Italian firm Viabizzuno and cost from approx £100 per linear m.

← SPOTLIGHT PROJECT

'First impressions were important to the homeowners, especially when they stepped through the front door in the evening. So we fitted LED Oslo floor washers above the skirting board and below the ceiling to create a sense of space and add drama,' says Sally Storey, design director at UK firm John Cullen Lighting. 'Drawing the eye to the next spot down a hallway or up a staircase adds interest and helps to foreshorten a long, narrow space.' A similar lighting scheme would cost approx £1,800.



6 EMBRACE THE DARK

Be bold and transform a dingy space with a daring hue

BEST FOR Small, compact hallways with little natural light.

BIGGEST PRO The hall is a transitional space where not much time is spent, so it's naturally an area of the home where you can afford to be bolder with your colour scheme. A simple navy, red or grey paint is a fail-safe way to add drama without having to do any hard graft.

EXPERT TIP 'By using a dark colour, you can instantly make other rooms off the hallway seem brighter and bigger,' says Josephine Rance, marketing director at Farrow & Ball.

'Just ensure the darker paint is still complementary to the other rooms so that it doesn't jar. Try painting a hall in a rich, dark hue, such as Mahogany or Blazer, to create a really dramatic entrance.' Farrow & Ball also suggests treating your ceiling as a fifth wall by taking the paint up over the cornice and letting it bleed into the ceiling, which will immediately add height.

LITTLE BLACK BOOK A tinted primer will help to hide imperfections and optimise your new dark colour – try Valspar's Primer & Undercoat.

MONOCHROME PROJECT

'The scheme was partly inspired by Abigail Ahern's interiors and Dennis Severs's House in Spitalfields,' says homeowner Victoria Lloyd. 'It was always going to be a dark Victorian hall, so we thought we'd embrace that rather than go the predictable white route! It's a much better setting for artwork and the mirror just looks a bit more dramatic.' Dulux's Urban Obsession emulsion, £24.49 for 2.5l, is a similar shade.

7

CLOSET CASE

Go for hidden, built-in wardrobes instead of freestanding hall furniture

BEST FOR Making the most of readily available dead space.

EXPERT TIP 'An under-stair area is ideal for squeezing the most out of your hallway, as these spaces tend to be very deep. Pull-out cabinets are best for easy access, with drawers as well as coat cupboards,' says Barbara Genda, founder of Barbara Genda Bespoke Furniture. 'We recently did a project where we fitted the washing machine and tumble dryer under the stairs. This still left room for deep pull-out shelves for shoes, plus some

coat hooks put on a swivel panel, so you could store plenty of garments, but easily get to the one you wanted.'

NUTS AND BOLTS Considering that this area is usually where electricity and gas meters are fitted, and even boilers, you'll need to make sure these are still accessible before you start stuffing it with storage.

LITTLE BLACK BOOK Smart Storage, Holloways of Ludlow and Avar Furniture are all companies that could maximise your under-stair storage potential.

SLIDING STORAGE PROJECT

'There are three pull-out cabinets under the stairs, with the tallest one for coats, the middle one for our shoes and the smallest one for bags and cleaning products,' says Jutta Tanninen, homeowner and Finnish interior designer. 'There are tiny wheels under each cabinet and rails glued to the floor to keep the sliding cabinets in place.'

Jutta estimates that this project would cost approx £2,200 to have it done by a tradesman in the UK.

8 RUNNERS UP

Ditch the carpet – stair runners are on the rise

BEST FOR Making a style statement that's easily updateable.

EXPERT TIP 'A runner on the staircase can instantly transform a once-dark hall into a warm and inviting space,' says Roger Oates, founder of eponymous specialist company Roger Oates. 'Bold, chunky stripes are a popular look right now, especially in hallways, where you can afford to be more daring. We've also seen more customers mixing striped designs with patterned wallpaper.'

CLEVER SHORT CUT If you don't fancy the upkeep of a runner or the

expense of installing one, painting one on to the stairs is a cool visual trick that will inject some playful character to your hallway. If you're adding any detail, such as a striped edge, ensure that you paint over the masking tape edges with your base colour, which will seal the tape and give you a clean finish. A professional tape, such as Frog Tape, available at B&Q, is worth using – and buy decent floor paint: try Little Greene's range, £59 for 2.5l.

LITTLE BLACK BOOK For runner options, try Alternative Flooring, Crucial Trading and Rug Couture.

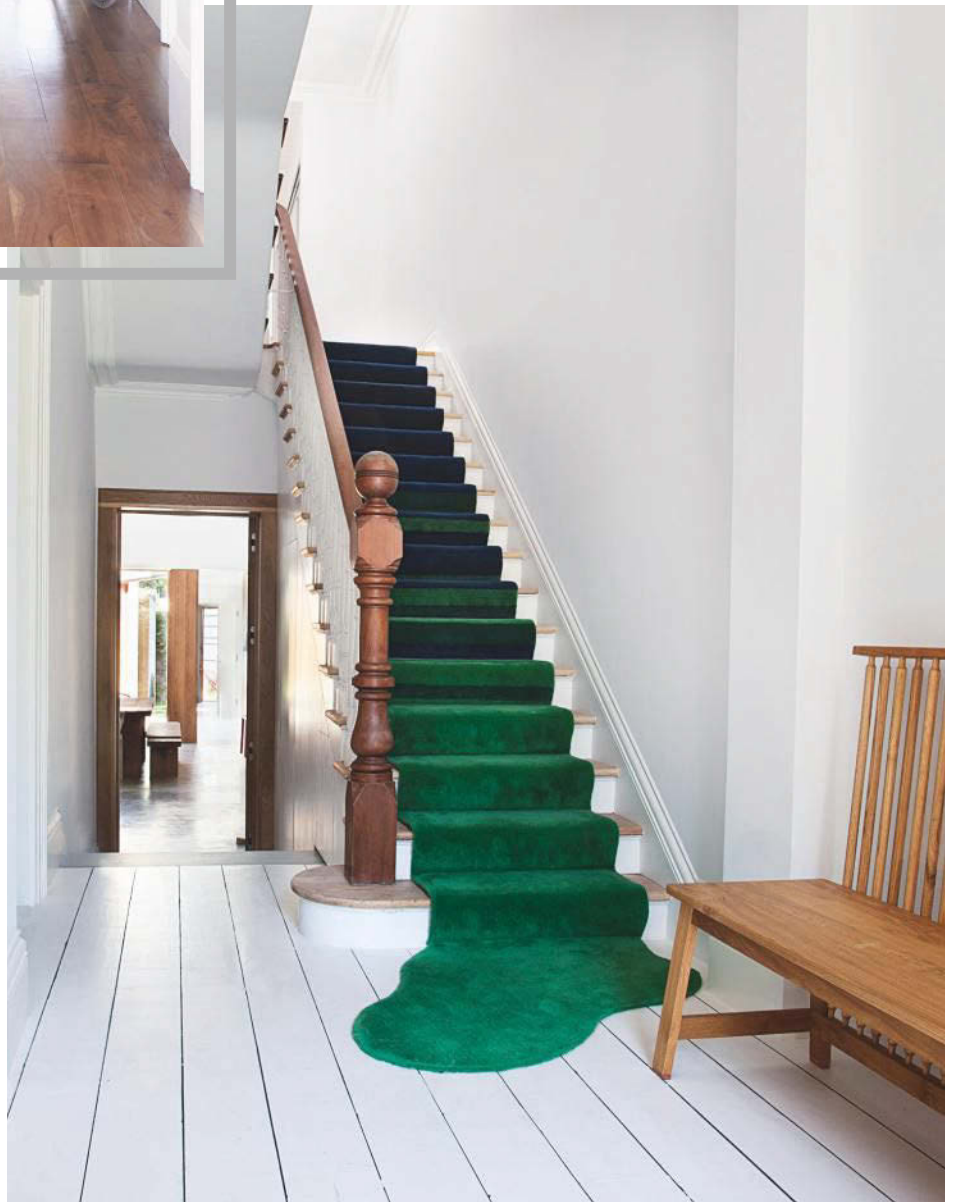


STRIPED PROJECT ↑

'The clients wanted a design that was monochrome to chime with the rest of the house, but was also going to make a bold statement on entering the home,' says Roger Oates, founder of Roger Oates. 'Our Fitzroy design fitted the bill perfectly and while the black-and-white runner might not normally be the first choice to have with children around, the kids had been taught to be respectful, so shoes come off when they enter the house and slippers go on to go upstairs.' *This Fitzroy wool runner is priced at £118 per linear m.*

FEATURE PROJECT →

Having opened up the hallway, the designers behind this period revamp introduced an eye-catching addition. 'The runner continues all the way up through the house, changing colour as it goes,' says Peter B Legge of Irish architects and design consultants Peter Legge Associates. *The runner, price on application, was designed by Peter Legge Associates and manufactured by The Dixon Carpet Company.*

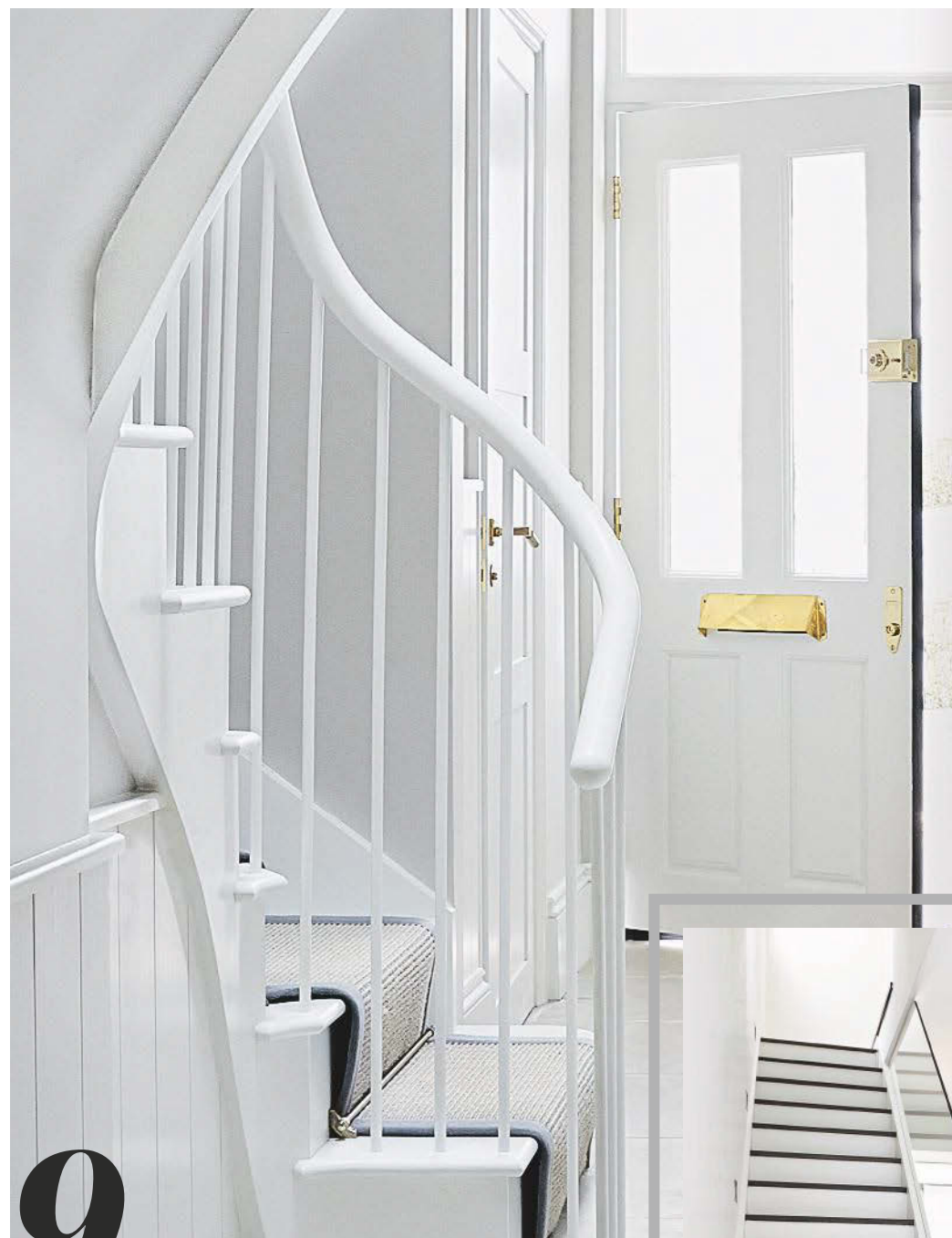


← CURVED PROJECT

This remodelled staircase makes a stylish addition to the hallway. 'It creates a boundary between old and new,' says architect Jonathan Douglas, founder of London-based Jonathan Douglas Architects. 'I wanted the staircase to draw the eye up through the space to the light well above. By staggering the stairs over three legs, we added complexity and intrigue, which makes this property unique.' *The complete staircase project cost approx £25,000.*

GLASS PROJECT ↓

This staircase has been given a contemporary update with a sleek glass panel, which lets through plenty of light. The minimalist banister and painted staircase allow the brightly coloured, geometric floor tiles to take centre stage. *Bisca could create a similar banister, from £850 per linear m. The encaustic floor tiles are Evora, £224.70 per sq m, by Fired Earth.*



9 GET A GRIP

A stylish balustrade is a sign of good design

BEST FOR Making a handsome feature out of your stairwell.

DESIGN KNOW-HOW When deciding on a style of balustrade, hand-forged uprights are always popular with period properties, while glass balustrades are a coveted look for modern homes. Glass may be slick in theory, but sticky fingers can soon change that, so think about the upkeep before you invest. For a quick update, consider feature posts (newels) or tailored bottom treads that can be added to an existing staircase.

EXPERT TIP 'Halls need as much light as possible and there are many

ways of introducing it into a staircase area, be it with a glass balustrade, glass walls, open treads or spotlights set into the wall above each tread,' says Richard McLane, design director and founder of bespoke staircase maker Bisca. 'A balustrade follows the line of the staircase, so a single sheet of curved glass, which is possible on a straight flight, may not work on a tightly curved staircase due to the radius. Instead, glass panels or uprights would be best.'

LITTLE BLACK BOOK For balustrade specialists, try Richard Burbidge, Ion Glass and Cantifix.



10 TILE TAKEOVER

Hard-wearing and decorative, this flooring is ideal for the most high-traffic area in the house

BEST FOR Adding pattern and colour to a neutral hallway.

TRICK OF THE TRADE If you're not blessed with a period tiled hall, laying patterned flooring is a great way of injecting personality into the space. Tiles are especially fab for decorating a small or narrow hall, because, with the pattern at floor level, it's easier on the eye than a loud wallpaper and will draw the eye along the floor, making the space seem bigger.

NUTS AND BOLTS When choosing your tiles, think carefully about whether they're going to stand up to all the comings and goings. Ceramic tiles are an easy-clean option and water resistant, while porcelain designs are a good choice money-wise – just check that they won't become slippery when wet.

LITTLE BLACK BOOK Find decorative tiles at Surface, Fired Earth, Bert & May and Topps Tiles.

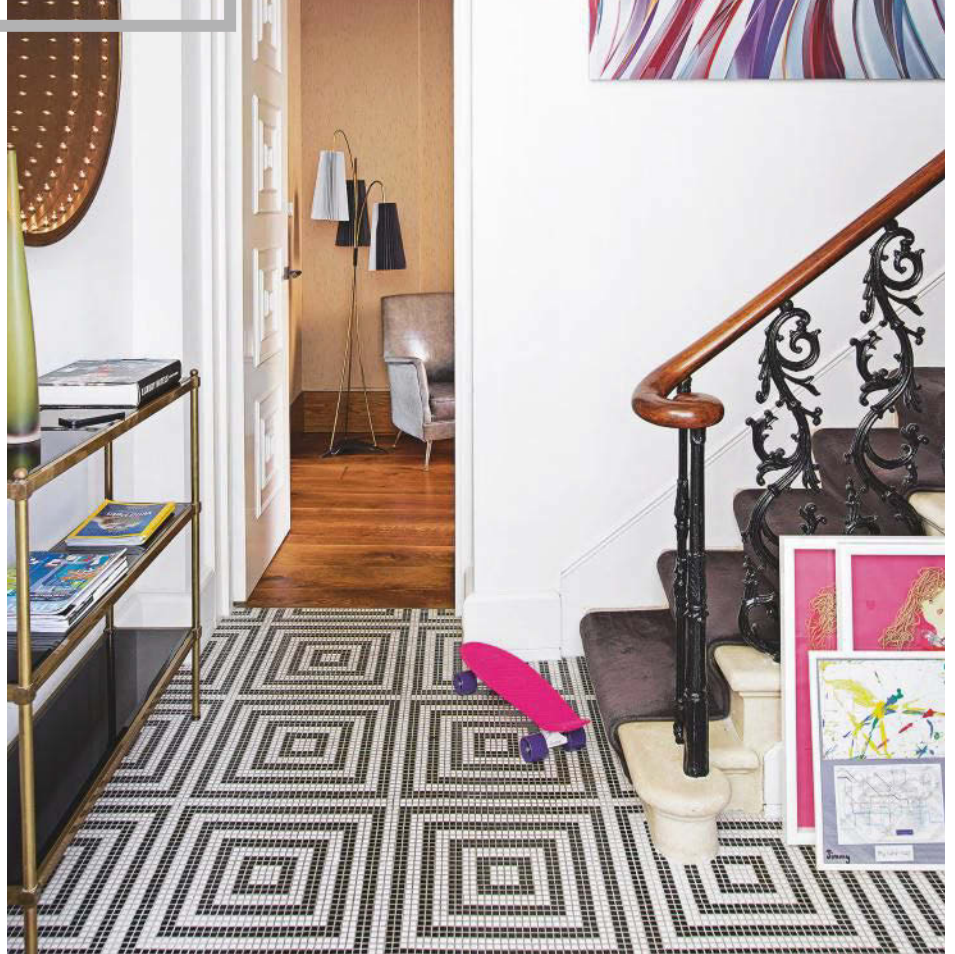


PATTERNED PROJECT ↑

'The house has some fine original features and the owner wanted these to be enhanced by the flooring,' says Jules Archard, showroom manager at Surface Tiles. 'The Azulej floor tiles were perfect because the retro patterns are a modern version of traditional Victorian designs, so they successfully link both the old and new areas of the property.' *These Azulej tiles are by Patricia Urquiola, £146.28 per sq m, at Surface.*

CLASSIC PROJECT →

This mosaic marble floor is a witty take on traditional Victorian tile designs. Despite being contemporary, the tiles sit well with the period staircase, blending in with the hall's monochrome scheme. 'They re-draw a classic black-and-white pattern, but with a gorgeously modern iridescence,' says homeowner and UK creative consultant Chantal Larren. *The scheme was designed by Carden Cunietti using Wengè in Nero glass mosaic tiles, £173 per sq m, Carlo Dal Bianco for Bisazza.*





STYLE CLASSIC

Tongue and groove

Designer Various.

Background The tongue-and-groove joint was an inspired innovation of the 17th century, which allowed craftsmen to attach two pieces of wood together without the use of nails. Originally developed for floorboards, the same process is still used today, where a joint is made between two pieces of wood by means of a protruding tongue that runs along the entire length of one board fitting snugly into a corresponding groove running along the edge of the other.

As well as being a reliable, tight seam for floors, it's useful for other applications such as wall panelling, particularly when you're dealing with uneven walls (it's easier to clad them than strip down and replaster).

Tongue-and-groove panels are also a popular choice as wainscot in hallways and for decorating bathrooms. In kitchens, they look equally at home in a country-style scheme as they do in a contemporary space, such as this streamlined monochrome take on a utilitarian design.

Details British Standard kitchen, £7,550, by Plain English.



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from £299



lounge
from £45



accessories
from £9.95



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Plant specialist Hayloft is offering **Livingetc** readers a hand-selected collection of hardy perennial wallflowers (aka *Erysimums*) that will return year after year, filling your garden with prolonged, maintenance-free interest.

Not fussy about soil type or location, these beautiful plants will provide an attractive

splash of brightness across your garden. Hayloft chose these three unique varieties (height 60cm x spread 45cm), 'Paintbox', 'Constant Cheer' and 'Spice Island', because they change colour through the season – they're perfect for informal, cottage-style gardens and will also service almost every

nectar-searching insect around. Plus, they smell gorgeous!

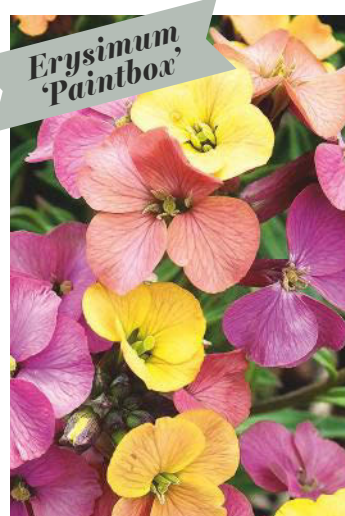
Those in the know plant them next to their patio so they can soak up the flowers' delicate fragrance throughout the summer and witness close up the fabulous blooms' changes in colour as the flowers mature.



**Erysimum
'Spice Island'**



**Erysimum
'Constant Cheer'**



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ASK A DESIGNER

In need of decorating advice? Trying to find a particular product? Our design guru is here to help



MARK GARSIDE With an eye for refreshing design, production and the unusual, Mark has vast experience in creating and manufacturing all manner of 3-D products. He has a unique practical knowledge of where to find things, what works and how to get what you can't buy made. Email your design dilemmas to Mark at etc@markgarside.com and he will answer as many of them as he can.

Q We've just undertaken some remodelling work in the kitchen annexe and now have a couple of walls with exposed brick that we'd like to paint white. What is the best method of doing this?

Melanie, Wimbledon

A Firstly, don't use PVA glue to seal your wall before painting – this is a cheap trick that's often repeated in multiple 'how-to' guides. Walls need to breathe to regulate moisture and PVA hinders this. Paint will stick better to brick if you give the wall a quick mist over with a 50/50-mix of paint and water (work from the top of the wall down). If the walls are flaky or powdery, then paint first with masonry stabilising solution. You can use vinyl matt emulsion, but this is more liable to cracking and crazing with the temperature variants in the house, so I'd suggest using a decent exterior masonry paint by a company such as Mylands (mylands.co.uk), which costs £62 for 5 litres. Paint using a long-pile roller and large brush, brushing in a circular pattern to get into all those nooks and crannies!

Q I'm planning a DIY kitchen build, using Ikea cabinets with some other choice fittings and appliances. I'd like to use white composite quartz for the worktops and fit them myself, but I'm unsure what product to use. Can you advise?

Seb, Blackburn

A Nearly all of the engineered quartz worktops that companies make require special cutting and fabricating (usually by an authorised contractor), however, there is a new product that you can buy direct called Max-Top Quartz (maxtopquartz.co.uk). The top is about 4cm thick with a lightweight honeycomb core, so it's manageable (unlike solid stone worktops) and costs approx £200 per sq m – so more affordable than other quartz options. It can be cut and machined with standard tools, so you have more flexibility to make it up yourself and save time and money when you install.

Q I'd love to buy the bright-coloured Paola Lenti wicker-style furniture for our garden, but it's out of my price bracket, so



Exterior masonry paint is perfect for covering an exposed brick wall

I'm looking around for something else with the same vibrancy. Can you help please?

Jennifer, Nottingham

A You're right, Paola Lenti (paolalenti.it) does incredibly cool furniture, but there are alternatives. If you're on a bit of a budget, you can always paint existing retro wicker furniture, but if it's an off-the-shelf piece you want, have a look at the Nopolou rocking chair, below, by Ayse Birsal and Bibi Seck for Moroso, which comes in a riotous pink and red, or in a light blue and purple combo. It costs £470 from StandSeven (standseven.com).

'Rugs made out of recycled colourful plastic are great for the garden'

Q We're trying to find a stylish log fire pit for outdoors. We'd like something raw, handmade and individual-looking, but still contemporary. What do you suggest?

Karissa and David, York

A There are many skilled traditional ironworkers who would be up for a bespoke commission and I'd recommend a search of the British Artist Blacksmith Association (babamembers.org.uk).

One from the list I've picked out is Ironart (ironart.co.uk), which already makes a fire called The Large Malvern Brazier for £375 that may be just the sort of thing you're after.

Q Have you any thoughts on where we can find large bright patterned mats that can be used outside on the grass and left out overnight or longer?

Julian and Selene, Balham

A Check out Fairtrade and craft companies such as Malika (malika.org.uk), which offer a fabulous

selection of rugs and furniture made out of recycled colourful plastic. The rugs are very good value – all under £35 – and are great for the garden, with the largest size at 150 x 240cm.

Q I spotted some storage boxes made from grey felt in a magazine and wanted to find some to store the kids' toys, but I've been unable to track them down. Can you help?

Lucy, King's Lynn

A I had a hunt around for you and found that Tesco Direct (tesco.com) actually does a cool set of three handled baskets for only £15, plus other felt boxes with lids for £12 each, in its Home collection. That's a bargain if you ask me!

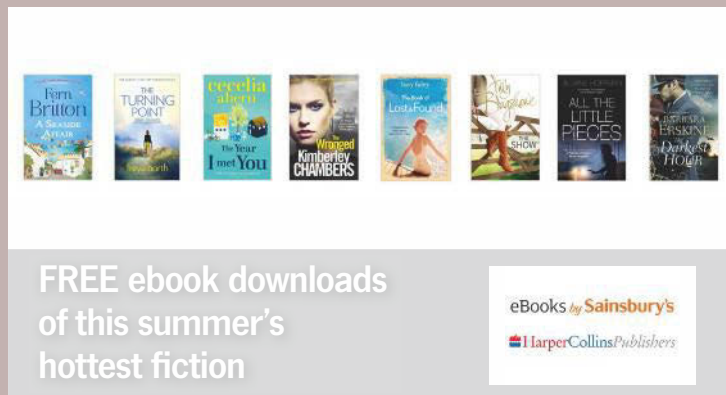


Go bold with the Nopolou rocking chair

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Boho rhapsody

Leave your finery (and your shoes) at home – there's something wonderfully relaxed about these luxury retreats

Words – Sarah Baldwin

Barefoot getaways are no longer the preserve of the dreadlocked backpacker – a new breed of boho-chic hotels has redefined the concept of luxury travel.

In place of champagne and caviar, you'll find hammocks and Havaianas, with a style aesthetic of natural materials and indoor-outdoor spaces instead of Italian marble or Deco bling. Switch off your email and leave your glad rags at home, this is back-to-basics holidaying, where the focus is on chilling out rather than tuning in.

Areias do Seixo near Portugal's Santa Cruz is an architectural delight, with a seriously laid-back attitude; Mykonos's San Giorgio is a haven for hedonists looking to escape; while in Mexico, follow a dirt track to Hotel Escondido for authentic style on a deserted beach. Alfresco dining, poolside lazing and beach bumming are *de rigueur* at these fab retreats. Reserve your smartphone for papping the oh-so Instagramable interiors...



THIS PICTURE One of Hotel Escondido's traditional Mexican beach huts, built with wood and palm leaves. ABOVE Enjoy the hotel's hammocks and pool by the beach

HOTEL ESCONDIDO, *Oaxaca, Mexico*

THE LOWDOWN A rustic paradise smack bang on the beach.

BEST FOR Surfers and sunbathers looking to escape the daily grind.

Mission doesn't quite cut it to describe the journey to Hotel Escondido on Mexico's Pacific coast, but it's well worth the effort. You'll find pure white sand, perfect swell and sheer seclusion at this beachfront paradise. Individual bungalows offer a modern take on traditional Oaxacan beach huts, with private plunge pools, stunning ocean views and simple interiors that ooze charm. It's a 20-minute drive away from Puerto Escondido, a mecca for serious surfers, while back at the hotel you can expend your energy hanging 10, kayaking or motorcycling along the dunes. But if never leaving the comfort of your sun lounger is more your sort of thing, this relaxed hideaway offers evening BBQs, bonfires and a luxurious spa to keep you happily occupied. And there's no danger of overactive kids ruining your siesta – guests have to be aged 16+.

BOOK IT Double rooms from approx £170 (designhotels.com).

AREIAS DO SEIXO, *Santa Cruz, Portugal*

THE LOWDOWN A modern design hotel with a seriously laid-back attitude.

BEST FOR Aesthetes who like to mingle around a bonfire.

It's rare to find an eco hotel with so much design cred. At Areias do Seixo, a sculptural glass and concrete exterior gives way to beautifully thought-out interiors, filled with natural materials and textures to stimulate the senses. There are four themes to the rooms – Gold, Land, Tree and Love – and many feature fireplaces, terraces, sea views and expansive outdoor bathrooms. The hotel is a mere 35-minute drive from Lisbon, but it feels a world apart from the urban jungle. You might just want to wander the unspoilt beach, less than five minutes' walk away, or choose one of the dozens of organised outdoor activities, from yoga classes to mussel harvesting. Adding to the feel-good vibe are nightly drinks (the free wine should put you in a chatty mood) and bi-weekly bonfire parties with Portuguese *fado* music.

Our pre-travel tip? Pack your tambourine and brush up on your *Kumbaya*.

BOOK IT Double rooms from £190 (mrandmrssmith.com).



CLOCKWISE FROM THIS PICTURE The modern, luxe interior of the hotel's Villa Blue; bathe alfresco in a stunning outdoor courtyard; one of the Love rooms at Areias do Seixo with an elevated four-poster bed





CLOCKWISE FROM THIS PICTURE The cool, white Famosa suite at San Giorgio; the Veranda room's chic, rustic en suite; take a seat and swing back in the shade of the hotel



SAN GIORGIO, *Paraga, Mykonos*

THE LOWDOWN A pared-back retreat to delight bohemians.

BEST FOR Party seekers looking for a haven away from the scene.

Staying at a gorgeous sanctuary removed from fast-paced modern life doesn't mean you have to leave your party hat at home. Enter San Giorgio on Mykonos, a stunning hotel designed for anyone who loves both minimalist luxury and a convivial atmosphere. Created by the team behind the island's famous Paradise Club, its 32 rooms are sophisticated in their simplicity, with whitewashed walls, organic materials and natural flourishes. Hand-picked treasures bring personality to every space. The pool, restaurant and bar areas are designed with mingling in mind; dinner is served at family-style tables around the pool and the hotel bar is a destination for trendsetters. As a guest, you receive priority entry at hip beach club Scorpios, plus the hotel also furnishes you with an extensive guide to the local highlights of the island. Someone pass us the ouzo...

BOOK IT Double rooms from approx £126 (sangiorgio-mykonos.com).

Livingetc OFFER

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SCENT-SATIONAL PINKS

Pinks are one of the oldest cultivated plants and most popular cut flowers in the UK – and it's not hard to see why. They're beautiful, robust and extremely floriferous, filling gardens with colour from April into September. They also return year after year, so are something of an investment too. With such a sweet scent, Pinks (or Dianthus, to use their botanical name) are the perfect low-maintenance hardy perennial for both those new to gardening and the green-fingered among us.

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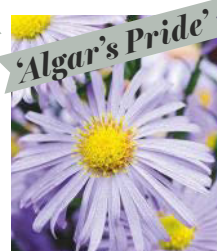
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Asters are incredible plants. You might know them as Michaelmas daisies, but botanically, they're referred to as Asters and are a relative of the tiny daisies you sometimes see growing in lawns. They're so hardy and easy to grow and Hayloft has scoured the land to bring you some of the more unusual varieties. They're not fussy and are considered a must-have for any autumn garden. Perfect in pots and borders, they hide away until late August when they finally burst into a frenzy of flowers, producing vibrant star-shaped blooms into late November.

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Bar CODE

It's amazing how you can make store-bought staples your own. Check out Donna Hay's updates on vanilla ice cream

Photography – Chris Court
Styling – Steve Pearce

Apricot and blackberry ice-cream bars

Makes 9

- 500g apricots, halved and stones removed
- 500g fresh or frozen blackberries
- 220g white sugar
- 2 litres store-bought vanilla ice cream

- Preheat the oven to 200°C/gas mark 6. Place the apricots and blackberries in a medium deep-sided baking tray lined with non-stick baking paper and sprinkle over the sugar.
- Bake for 20-25 minutes, or until softened. Allow to cool completely. Roughly chop the apricots and set the fruit aside.
- Line a lightly greased 20 x 30cm tin with non-stick baking paper and freeze until ready to use.

- Scoop the ice cream into the bowl of an electric mixer and beat on a low speed for 1-2 minutes, or until softened. Stir through the fruit mixture and transfer to the prepared tin.
- Spread the mixture evenly with a palette knife and freeze for 4-5 hours, or overnight, until set. Lift the ice-cream slab from the tin and cut into bars to serve.

Blueberry crumble ice-cream bars

Makes 12

- 250g fresh blueberries
- 150g caster sugar
- 60ml lemon juice
- 4 strips lemon zest, removed with a vegetable peeler
- 340g plain flour, sifted
- 220g caster sugar, extra
- 120g desiccated coconut
- 200g unsalted butter, melted
- 2 litres store-bought vanilla ice cream

- Preheat the oven to 160°C/gas mark 3. Place the blueberries, sugar, lemon juice and zest in a small, deep-sided baking tray and stir to combine.
- Bake for 20-25 minutes, or until thickened and syrupy. Discard the lemon zest and allow the jam to cool completely.
- Place the flour, sugar, coconut and butter in a bowl and stir until the mixture just comes together and resembles fine breadcrumbs.
- Spoon the mixture into a large lightly greased baking tray lined with non-stick baking paper and bake for 25-30 minutes, or until light golden. Allow to cool completely.

- Divide the mixture in half, spooning one half into the base of a lightly greased 20 x 30cm cake tin lined with non-stick baking paper. Freeze the tin until ready to use. Reserve the remaining half of the crumble mixture.
- Scoop the ice cream into the bowl of an electric mixer and beat on a low speed for 1 minute, or until softened. Transfer the ice cream into the prepared tin and smooth the top with a palette knife.
- Top with the blueberry jam and gently spread with a palette knife until the ice cream is evenly covered.
- Spoon over the reserved crumble mixture, top with a sheet of non-stick baking paper and press the crumble gently into the blueberry jam. Freeze for 4-5 hours, or overnight, until set. Lift the ice-cream slab from the tin and cut into bars to serve.



Coconut and banana ice-cream bars

Makes 12

- 250g *mashed banana*
 - 80g *icing sugar, sifted*
 - 1 litre *store-bought coconut ice cream*
 - 150g *dark chocolate, melted*
 - 40g *desiccated coconut*
- FOR THE COCONUT BISCUIT**
- 160g *unsalted butter, softened*
 - 220g *caster sugar*
 - 1 *teaspoon vanilla extract*
 - 1 *egg*
 - 225g *plain flour, sifted*
 - 1 *teaspoon bicarbonate of soda, sifted*
 - ½ *teaspoon baking powder, sifted*
 - 120g *desiccated coconut*

- Preheat the oven to 160°C/gas mark 3. To make the coconut biscuit, put the butter, sugar and vanilla in the bowl of an electric mixer and beat for 6-8 minutes, or until pale and creamy. Add the egg and beat until well combined.
- Scrape down the sides of the bowl, add the flour, bicarbonate of soda, baking powder and coconut and mix until combined.
- Transfer the mixture to a lightly greased 30 x 42cm baking tray lined with non-stick baking paper. Top with a large sheet of non-stick baking paper and smooth with a palette knife until flat and even. Remove the paper, prick the biscuit base with a fork and bake for 15-20 minutes, or until light golden. Allow to cool in the tin for 10-15 minutes.

- Remove the biscuit base from the tray and using a 20 x 30cm cake tin to guide you, cut two rectangles from the biscuit base. Allow to cool completely. Lightly grease the same cake tin and line with non-stick baking paper. Place one biscuit rectangle in the base of the tin and freeze until ready to use.
- Put the mashed banana and sugar in a bowl and stir to combine. Scoop the ice cream into the bowl of an electric mixer and beat on a low speed for 1-2 minutes, or until softened. Fold through the banana mixture and transfer the mixture into the prepared tin.
- Top with the remaining biscuit rectangle and freeze for 4-5 hours, or overnight until set. Lift the ice-cream slab from the tin and cut into bars.
- Dip one end of the bars into the melted chocolate and then into the coconut. Place on a baking tray lined with non-stick baking paper and freeze for a further 30 minutes, or until the chocolate has set.



Summer trifle ice-cream bars

Makes 12

- 60ml sweet sherry
 - 2 tablespoons caster sugar
 - 150g brioche, crust removed and chopped
 - 1 litre store-bought strawberry ice cream
 - 180ml store-bought thick vanilla custard
 - 300g brioche, extra, crust removed and torn
 - 110g white sugar
- FOR THE POACHED VANILLA PEACHES**
- 330g caster sugar
 - 375ml water
 - 1 vanilla bean, split and seeds scraped
 - 3 peaches, halved and stones removed

- To make the poached vanilla peaches, put the sugar, water and vanilla bean and seeds in a medium saucepan over a medium heat and stir until the sugar starts to dissolve.
- Bring to the boil and add the peaches, cut-side down. Cover the peaches with non-stick baking paper and weigh down with a small lid or plate. Reduce the temperature to low and poach for 20-25 minutes, or until very soft. Remove the lid and the baking paper and allow the peaches to cool in the syrup.
- Remove the fruit from the syrup, discarding the skin and vanilla bean and reserve the syrup. Squash the peaches with the back of a spoon. Set aside.
- Put the sherry and sugar in a large bowl and stir until the sugar has dissolved. Add the brioche and 2 tablespoons of the reserved poaching syrup and toss until the liquid has absorbed.

- Line a lightly greased 20 x 30cm tin with non-stick baking paper and freeze until ready to use.
- Scoop the ice cream into the bowl of an electric mixer and beat on a low speed for 1 minute, or until softened. Fold through the peaches and brioche and transfer the mixture to the prepared tin. Swirl through the custard, cover with a sheet of non-stick baking paper and smooth the top evenly with a palette knife. Freeze for 4-5 hours, or overnight, until set.
- Preheat the oven to 160°C/gas mark 3. Put the extra brioche and white sugar in a processor and blend until fine breadcrumbs form. Divide the mixture between 2 baking trays lined with non-stick baking paper and bake for 8-10 minutes, or until golden and toasted. Transfer the mixture to 1 baking tray and allow to cool completely.
- Lift the ice-cream slab from the tin and cut into bars. Allow the bars to stand for a few minutes to soften, so that the crumbs stick easily to them. Press the crumb mixture on to the bars, place on a baking tray lined with non-stick baking paper and freeze for 1 hour, or until firm.



Raspberry ripple cheesecake ice-cream bars ↓

Makes 12

- 125g fresh raspberries
- 160g icing sugar, sifted
- 1 vanilla bean, split and seeds scraped
- 250g cream cheese, chopped
- 250g ricotta
- 2 litres store-bought vanilla ice cream

FOR THE BISCUIT BASE

- 400g shortbread biscuits
- 80g icing sugar
- 75g unsalted butter, melted

- To make the biscuit base, put the biscuits and sugar in a food processor and blend until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Add the butter and mix until combined.
- Using the back of a spoon, press the mixture evenly into the base of a lightly greased 20 x 30cm tin lined with non-stick baking paper until smooth. Freeze the tin until ready to use.
- Put the raspberries, half of the icing sugar and the vanilla seeds in a bowl and crush with a fork to form a purée. Set aside.
- Place the cream cheese and remaining icing sugar in the bowl of an electric mixer and beat for 6-8 minutes, or until softened and smooth. Scrape down the sides of the bowl, add the ricotta and beat until just combined. Add the ice cream and beat on a low speed for 1 minute, or until combined. Fold through half the raspberry purée to create a ripple effect and transfer the mixture to the prepared tin. Spread the mixture evenly with a palette knife and swirl through the remaining raspberry purée. Freeze for 4-5 hours, or overnight, until set. Cut into bars to serve.



Peanut butter and chocolate brownie ice-cream bars ↑

Makes 15

- 800g store-bought chocolate brownies
- 190g smooth peanut butter
- 2 litres store-bought vanilla ice cream
- 210g smooth peanut butter, extra

- Break the brownies into pieces and place in a food processor with the peanut butter. Blend until just combined and the mixture resembles coarse breadcrumbs.
- Divide the mixture in half and press one half gently into the base of a lightly greased 20 x 30cm tin lined with non-stick baking paper. Freeze the tin until ready to use. Reserve the remaining half of the brownie mixture.
- Scoop the ice cream into the bowl of an electric mixer and beat on a low speed for 1-2 minutes, or until softened. Fold the extra peanut butter through until just combined.
- Transfer the ice-cream mixture into the prepared tin and smooth the top with a palette knife. Top with the reserved brownie mixture and press gently using your fingers to create an even surface. Freeze for 4-5 hours, or overnight, until set. Cut into squares to serve.



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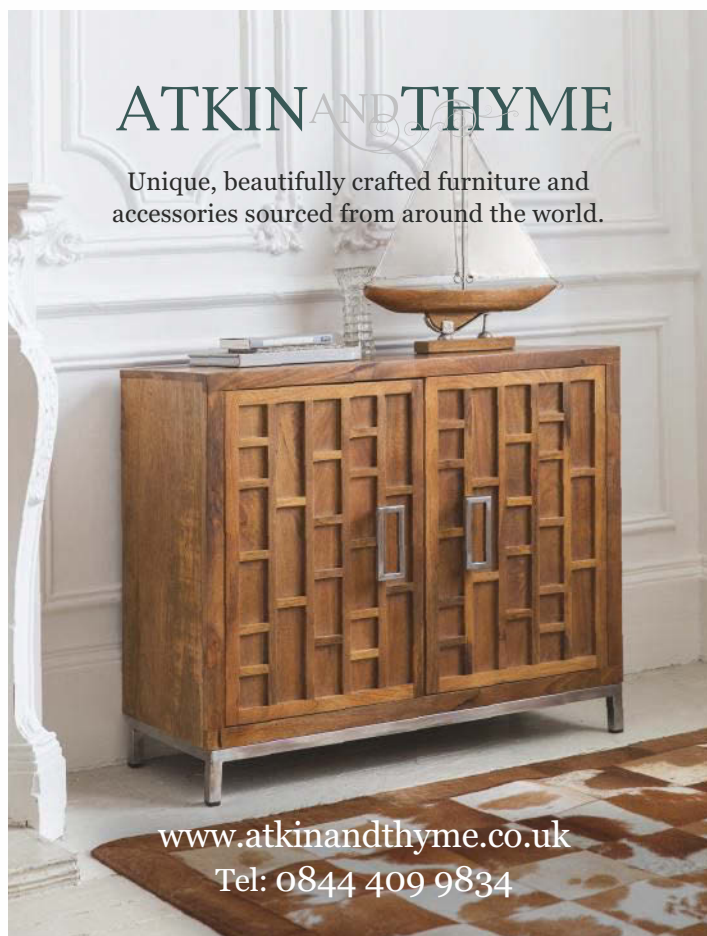
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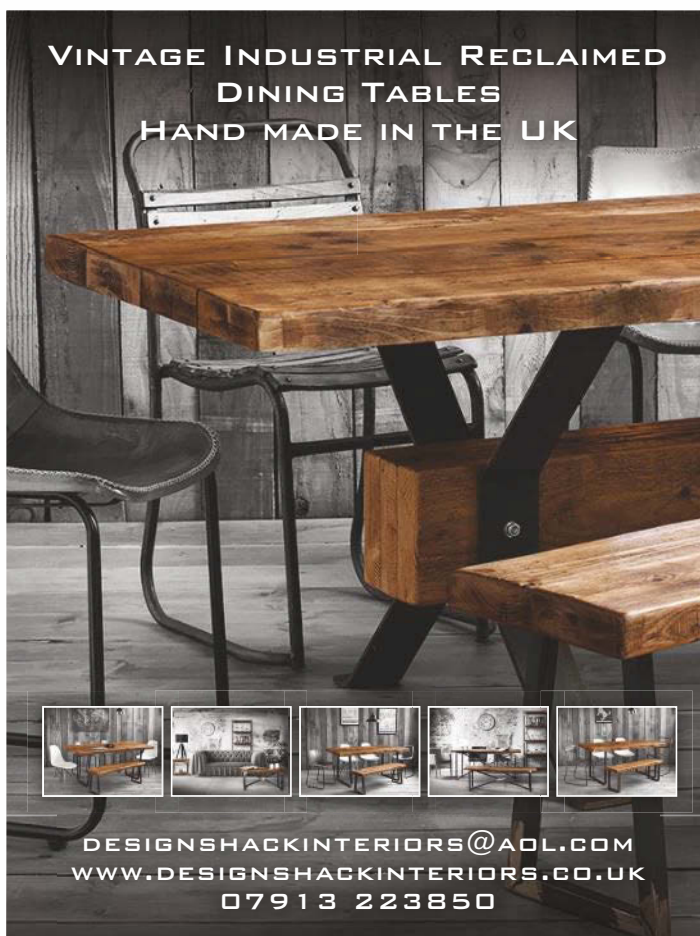
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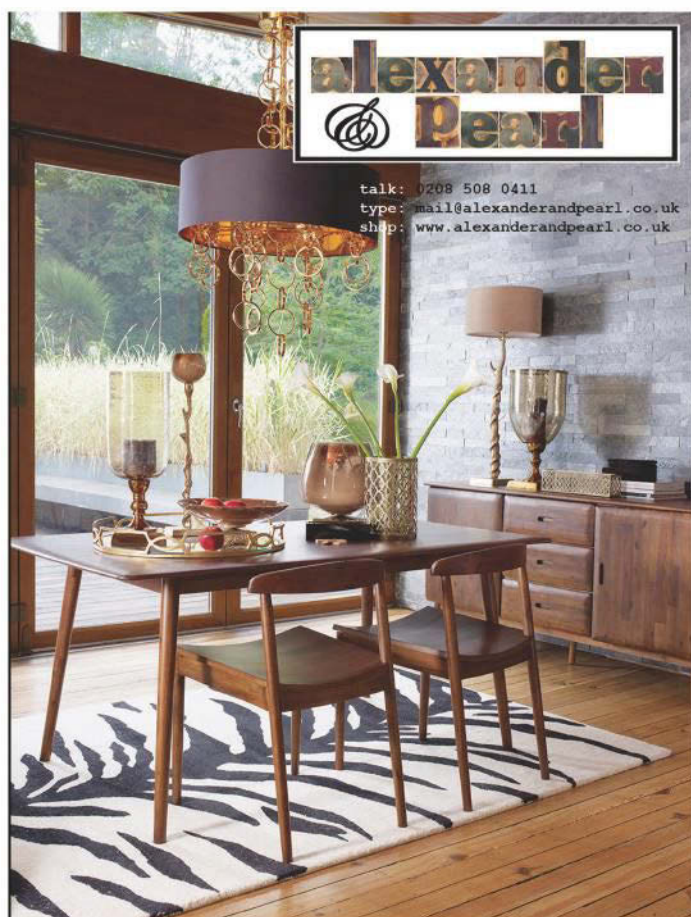


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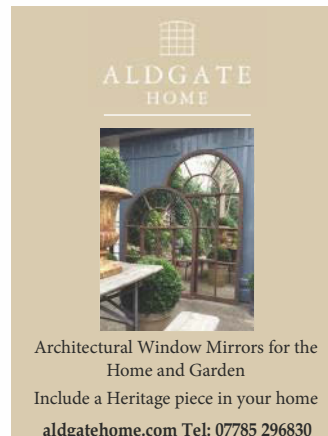


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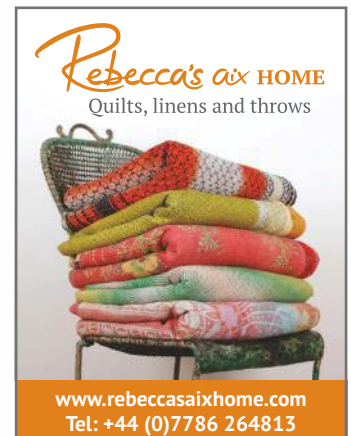


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Take a peek at what team @Livingetc got up to while preparing this issue



Bright ideas

Editorial assistant @AmyMoorea meets Sir Terence Conran at the launch of his beautiful new book #ConranOnColour

Tough decisions – associate editor @SarBaldwin debates cushion choices on the *New Frontier* shoot (page 49)



Queen of #LivingetcHouseTours marketing manager Kate, *centre*, celebrates another successful year with art editor Steph, *right*, and House Tourist Amber, *left*



Style assistant Jesse brings some pattern to @Bainesfricker's colour blocks at Clerkenwell Design Week #CDW2015



Zooming in

Photographer Paul Massey plays I-spy on Anita and Hugh's house shoot (page 76)



A stack of St Mark chairs land @MOROSOfficial's fab London showroom



A bird's-eye view of style editor Hannah and photographer Jonathan West shooting the *New Frontier* story



Editor Suzanne's personalised @JoMaloneLondon gift box, plus she gets a preview of the new #MimosaAndCardamon fragrance



High jinks

Team @Livingetc enjoy the view from @MondrianLDN's Rumpus Room #posers

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